



A Little on V8 and WebAssembly

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Agenda

- What makes JavaScript unique and challenging?
- What makes V8 unique and challenging?
- What the heck is WebAssembly and why?

We all love JavaScript

What makes JavaScript unique and interesting?

- JavaScript is the language of the Web
- Scripting language: programs presented in source form
- “Classically slow” language
- Prototype-based object model
- Functional features with closures
- Untyped: variables and properties do not have types, values do
- A smattering of oddball features
 - Weird scoping rules
 - **eval**
 - **with** scopes
 - Proxies
 - Rest parameters
 - Default parameters
 - Generators
 - Undetectables
 - Holey arrays
 - Arguments object
 - ...

Challenge: programs presented in source form

- Parsing has to be fast
- Source code is slower for machines to parse
 - Source code parser: 1-10MB/s
 - Binary format like bytecode: 100MB/s
- New language features all the time
 - All features supported by all virtual machines

Challenge: prototype-based object model

```
var x = new SubClass("mine", 100);

function BaseClass(name) {
  this.name = name;
}
function SubClass(name, data) {
  BaseClass.call(this, name);
  this.data = data;
}
BaseClass.prototype.print = function() {
  print(this.name);
}

SubClass.prototype.__proto__ = BaseClass.prototype;
```

Challenge: prototype-based object model

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var x = new SubClass("mine", 100);

function BaseClass(name) {
  this.name = name;
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- Objects instantiated by "new Function()" syntax
- Methods installed on the "prototype" of an object
- Prototypes chain together to emulate inheritance

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- Objects instantiated by “new Function()” syntax
- **Methods installed on the “prototype” of an object**
- Prototypes chain together to emulate inheritance

Challenge: prototype-based object model

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```

- Objects instantiated by “new Function()” syntax
- Methods installed on the “prototype” of an object
- **Prototypes chain together to emulate inheritance**

Challenge: functional programming with closures

```
function Counter(name) {  
  var count = 0;  
  return {  
    inc: function() { count++; },  
    get: function() { return count; },  
    print: function() { print(name + ":" + count); }  
  }  
}  
  
var x = new Counter();  
  
var before = x.get();  
x.inc();  
x.print();
```

- Closures over local variables, even mutable locals
- Object literals allow grouping multiple closures into a “mini-object”

Challenge: functional programming with closures

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function Counter(name) {  
  var count = 0;  
  return {  
    inc: function() { count++; },  
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var x = new Counter();  
  
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```

- Closures over locals, even mutable locals
- Object literals allow grouping multiple closures into a "mini-object"

Challenge: untyped variables and operations

```
function add(a, b) {  
    return a + b;  
}  
add(1, 2);  
add("foo", 1);  
add(1, "foo");  
add({foo: ""}, 1);  
add("hello", {toString: () => "me"});  
add(1.01, 3.03);
```

- Variables, parameters, properties, and expressions do not have types
- Operators are overloaded for different types of values

Challenge: untyped variables and operations

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function add(a, b) {  
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- Variables, parameters, properties, and expressions do not have types
- Operators are overloaded for different types of values

Glance at Semantics: +

12.7.3.1 Runtime Semantics: Evaluation

operator +

AdditiveExpression : *AdditiveExpression* + *MultiplicativeExpression*

1. Let *lref* be the result of evaluating *AdditiveExpression*.
2. Let *lval* be *GetValue(lref)*.
3. *ReturnIfAbrupt(lval)*.
4. Let *rref* be the result of evaluating *MultiplicativeExpression*.
5. Let *rval* be *GetValue(rref)*.
6. *ReturnIfAbrupt(rval)*.
7. Let *lprim* be *ToPrimitive(lval)*.
8. *ReturnIfAbrupt(lprim)*.
9. Let *rprim* be *ToPrimitive(rval)*.
10. *ReturnIfAbrupt(rprim)*.
11. If *Type(lprim)* is String or *Type(rprim)* is String, then
 - a. Let *lstr* be *ToString(lprim)*.
 - b. *ReturnIfAbrupt(lstr)*.
 - c. Let *rstr* be *ToString(rprim)*.
 - d. *ReturnIfAbrupt(rstr)*.
 - e. Return the String that is the result of concatenating *lstr* and *rstr*.
12. Let *lnum* be *ToNumber(lprim)*.
13. *ReturnIfAbrupt(lnum)*.
14. Let *rnum* be *ToNumber(rprim)*.
15. *ReturnIfAbrupt(rnum)*.
16. Return the result of applying the **addition** operation to *lnum* and *rnum*. See the Note below 12.7.5.

NOTE 1 No hint is provided in the calls to *ToPrimitive* in steps 7 and 9. All standard objects except Date objects handle the absence of a hint as if the hint Number were given; Date objects handle the absence of a hint as if the hint String were given. Exotic objects may handle the absence of a hint in some other manner.

NOTE 2 Step 11 differs from step 5 of the Abstract Relational Comparison algorithm (7.2.11), by using the logical-or operation instead of the logical-and operation.

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AdditiveExpression : *AdditiveExpression* **operator** *AdditiveExpression*

1. Let *lref* be the result of evaluating *AdditiveExpression*.
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3. ReturnIfAbrupt(*lval*).
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5. Let *rval* be *GetValue(rref)*.
6. ReturnIfAbrupt(*rval*).
7. Let *lprim* be *ToPrimitive(lval)*.
8. ReturnIfAbrupt(*lprim*).
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NOTE 2 Step 11 differs from step 5 of the Abstract Relational Comparison algorithm (7.2.11), by using the logical-or operation instead of the logical-and operation.

7.1.1 ToPrimitive (input [, PreferredType])

The abstract operation *ToPrimitive* converts its input value to a primitive value. If the input value is not a primitive value, the abstract operation *ToPrimitive* converts its input value to a primitive value. If the input value is a primitive value, it may use the optional hint *PreferredType* to favour that type. Conversion occurs according to Table 9.

Table 9 — ToPrimitive Conversions

Input Type	Result
Completion Record	If input is an abrupt completion, return input. Otherwise return <i>ToPrimitive(input.[[value]])</i> also passing the optional hint <i>PreferredType</i> .
Undefined	Return input.
Null	Return input.
Boolean	Return input.
Number	Return input.
String	Return input.
Symbol	Return input.
Object	Perform the steps following this table.

When *Type(input)* is Object, the following steps are taken:

1. If *PreferredType* was not passed, let *hint* be "default".
2. Else if *PreferredType* is hint String, let *hint* be "string".
3. Else *PreferredType* is hint Number, let *hint* be "number".
4. Let *exoticToPrim* be *GetMethod(input, @@toPrimitive)*.
5. ReturnIfAbrupt(*exoticToPrim*).
6. If *exoticToPrim* is not undefined, then
 - a. Let *result* be *Call(exoticToPrim, input, <hint>)*.
 - b. ReturnIfAbrupt(*result*).
 - c. If *Type(result)* is not Object, return *result*.
 - d. Throw a *TypeError* exception.
7. If *hint* is "default", let *hint* be "number".
8. Return *OrdinaryToPrimitive(input, hint)*.

When the abstract operation *OrdinaryToPrimitive* is called with arguments *O* and *hint*, the following steps are taken:

1. Assert: *Type(O)* is Object
2. Assert: *Type(hint)* is String and its value is either "string" or "number".
3. If *hint* is "string", then
 - a. Let *methodNames* be «"toString", "valueOf"».
4. Else,
 - a. Let *methodNames* be «"valueOf", "toString"».
5. For each name in *methodNames* in List order, do
 - a. Let *method* be *Get(O, name)*.
 - b. ReturnIfAbrupt(*method*).
 - c. If *IsCallable(method)* is true, then
 - i. Let *result* be *Call(method, O)*.
 - ii. ReturnIfAbrupt(*result*).
 - iii. If *Type(result)* is not Object, return *result*.
6. Throw a *TypeError* exception.

NOTE When *ToPrimitive* is called with no hint, then it generally behaves as if the hint were Number. However, objects may over-ride this behaviour by defining a *@@toPrimitive* method. Of the objects defined in this specification only Date objects (see 20.3.4.45) and Symbol objects (see 19.4.3.4) over-ride the default *ToPrimitive* behaviour. Date objects treat no hint as if the hint were String.

Glance at Semantics: +

12.7.3.1 Runtime Semantics: Evaluation

AdditiveExpression : AdditiveExpression + MultiplicativeExpression

1. Let *lref* be the result of evaluating *AdditiveExpression*.
2. Let *lval* be GetValue(*lref*).
3. ReturnIfAbrupt(*lval*).
4. Let *rref* be the result of evaluating *MultiplicativeExpression*.
5. Let *rval* be GetValue(*rref*).
6. ReturnIfAbrupt(*rval*).
7. Let *prim* be ToPrimitive(*lval*).
8. ReturnIfAbrupt(*prim*).
9. Let *rprim* be ToPrimitive(*rval*).
10. ReturnIfAbrupt(*rprim*).
11. If Type(*prim*) is String or Type(*rprim*) is String, then
 - a. Let *lstr* be ToString(*prim*).
 - b. ReturnIfAbrupt(*lstr*).
 - c. Let *rstr* be ToString(*rprim*).
 - d. ReturnIfAbrupt(*rstr*).
 - e. Return the String that is the result of concatenating *lstr* and *rstr*.
12. Let *lnum* be ToNumber(*prim*).
13. ReturnIfAbrupt(*lnum*).
14. Let *rnum* be ToNumber(*rprim*).
15. ReturnIfAbrupt(*rnum*).
16. Return the result of applying the **addition** operation to *lnum* and *rnum*. See the Note below 12.7.5.

NOTE 1 No hint is provided in the calls to ToPrimitive in steps 7 and 9. All standard objects except Date objects handle the absence of a hint as if the hint Number were given; Date objects handle the absence of a hint as if the hint String were given. Exotic objects may handle the absence of a hint in some other manner.

NOTE 2 Step 11 differs from step 5 of the Abstract Relational Comparison algorithm (7.12.11), by using the logical-or operation instead of the logical-and operation.

7.1.12 ToString (argument)

The abstract operation ToString converts an argument to a String as follows:

Argument Type	Result
Completion Record	If argument is an abrupt completion, return argument. Otherwise return ToString(argument.[value]).
Undefined	Return "undefined".
Null	Return "null".
Boolean	If argument is true, return "true". If argument is false, return "false".
Number	See 7.1.12.1.
String	Return argument.
Symbol	Throw a TypeError exception.
Object	Apply the following steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Let <i>primValue</i> be ToPrimitive(argument, hint String).2. Return ToString(<i>primValue</i>).

7.1.12.1 ToString Applied to the Number Type

The abstract operation ToString converts a Number *m* to String format as follows:

1. If *m* is NaN, return the String "NaN".
2. If *m* is +0 or -0, return the String "0".
3. If *m* is less than zero, return the String concatenation of the String "-" and ToString(-*m*).
4. If *m* is +∞, return the String "Infinity".
5. Otherwise, let *n*, *k*, and *s* be integers such that $k \geq 1$, $10^{k-1} \leq m < 10^k$, the Number value for *s* is $m \times 10^{n-k}$ is *m*, and *k* is as small as possible. Note that *k* is the number of digits in the decimal representation of *s*, that *s* is not divisible by 10, and that the least significant digit of *s* is not necessarily uniquely determined by these criteria.
6. If $4 \leq n \leq 21$, return the String consisting of the code units of the *k* digits of the decimal representation of *s* (in order, with no leading zeros), followed by *n-k* occurrences of the code unit 0x0030 (DIGIT ZERO).
7. If $0 < n \leq 21$, return the String consisting of the code units of the most significant *n* digits of the decimal representation of *s*, followed by the code unit 0x002E (FULL STOP), followed by the code units of the remaining *k-n* digits of the decimal representation of *s*.
8. If $-6 < n \leq 5$, return the String consisting of the code unit 0x0030 (DIGIT ZERO), followed by the code unit 0x002E (FULL STOP), followed by *-n* occurrences of the code unit 0x0030 (DIGIT ZERO), followed by the code units of the *k* digits of the decimal representation of *s*.
9. Otherwise, if *k* = 1, return the String consisting of the code unit of the single digit of *s*, followed by code unit 0x0005 (LATIN SMALL LETTER E), followed by the code unit 0x002B (PLUS SIGN) or the code unit 0x002D (HYPHEN-MINUS) according to whether *n*-1 is positive or negative, followed by the code units of the decimal representation of the integer abs(*n*-1) (with no leading zeros).
10. Return the String consisting of the code units of the most significant digits of the decimal representation of *s*, followed by code unit 0x002E (FULL STOP), followed by the code units of the remaining *k*-1 digits of the decimal representation of *s*, followed by code unit 0x0005 (LATIN SMALL LETTER E), followed by code unit 0x002B (PLUS SIGN) or the code unit 0x002D (HYPHEN-MINUS) according to whether *n*-1 is positive or negative, followed by the code units of the decimal representation of the integer abs(*n*-1) (with no leading zeros).

7.1.1 ToPrimitive (input [, PreferredType])

The abstract operation ToPrimitive converts an input value to a primitive value. If the input is not a primitive type, it may be converted to a primitive value. The abstract operation ToPrimitive converts an input value to a primitive value. If the input is not a primitive type, it may be converted to a primitive value. The abstract operation ToPrimitive converts an input value to a primitive value. If the input is not a primitive type, it may be converted to a primitive value.

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Input Type	Result
Completion Record	If input is an abrupt completion, return input. Otherwise return ToPrimitive(input.[value]) also passing the optional hint PreferredType.
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Boolean	Return input.
Number	Return input.
String	Return input.
Symbol	Return input.
Object	Perform the steps following this table.

When Type(input) is Object, the following steps are taken:

1. If PreferredType was not passed, let hint be "default".
2. Else if PreferredType is hint String, let hint be "string".
3. Else PreferredType is hint Number, let hint be "number".
4. Let exoticToPrim be GetMethod(input, @@toPrimitive).
5. ReturnIfAbrupt(exoticToPrim).
6. If exoticToPrim is not undefined, then
 - a. Let result be Call(exoticToPrim, input, <hint>).
 - b. ReturnIfAbrupt(result).
 - c. If Type(result) is not Object, return result.
 - d. Throw a TypeError exception.
7. If hint is "default", let hint be "number".
8. Return OrdinaryToPrimitive(input, hint).

When the abstract operation OrdinaryToPrimitive is called with arguments *O* and *hint*, the following steps are taken:

1. Assert: Type(*O*) is Object.
2. Assert: Type(hint) is String and its value is either "string" or "number".
3. If hint is "string", then
 - a. Let methodNames be ["toString", "valueOf"].
4. Else,
 - a. Let methodNames be ["valueOf", "toString"].
5. For each name in methodNames in List order, do
 - a. Let method be Get(*O*, name).
 - b. ReturnIfAbrupt(method).
 - c. If IsCallable(method) is true, then
 - i. Let result be Call(method, *O*).
 - ii. ReturnIfAbrupt(result).
 - iii. If Type(result) is not Object, return result.
6. Throw a TypeError exception.

NOTE When ToPrimitive is called with no hint, then it generally behaves as if the hint were Number. However, objects may override this behavior by defining a @@toPrimitive method. Of the objects defined in this specification only Date objects (see 20.3.4.4) and Symbol objects (see 19.4.3.4) override the default ToPrimitive behaviour. Date objects treat no hint as if the hint were String.

Google

ToNumber

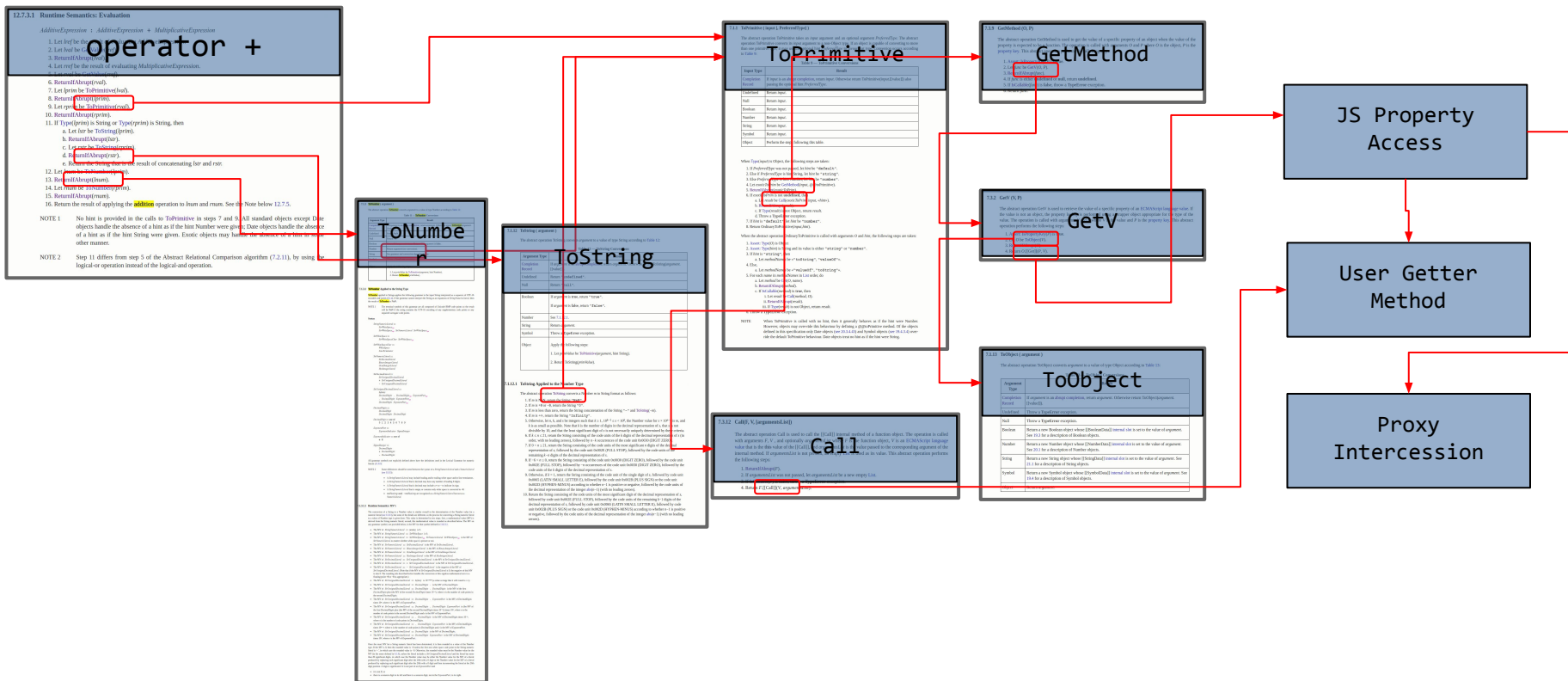
ToString

NOTE When `ToPrimitive` is called with no `hint`, then it generally behaves as if the `hint` were `Number`. However, objects may override this behaviour by defining a `@@ToPrimitive` method. Of the objects defined in this specification only `Date` objects (see 20.3.4.45) and `Symbol` objects (see 19.4.3.4) override the default `ToPrimitive` behaviour. `Date` objects treat no `hint` as if the `hint` were `String`.

Google

[illegible]

Glance at Semantics: +



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12.7.3.1 Runtime Semantics: Evaluation

operator +

AdditiveExpression : *AdditiveExpression* + *MultiplicativeExpression*

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2. Let *lval* be *GetValue*(*lref*).
3. **ReturnIfAbrupt**(*lval*).
4. Let *rref* be the result of evaluating *MultiplicativeExpression*.
5. Let *rval* be *GetValue*(*rref*).
6. **ReturnIfAbrupt**(*rval*).
7. Let *lprim* be *ToPrimitive*(*lval*).
8. **ReturnIfAbrupt**(*lprim*).
9. Let *rprim* be *ToPrimitive*(*rval*).
10. **ReturnIfAbrupt**(*rprim*).
11. If *Type*(*lprim*) is String or *Type*(*rprim*) is String, then
 - a. Let *lstr* be *ToString*(*lprim*).
 - b. **ReturnIfAbrupt**(*lstr*).
 - c. Let *rstr* be *ToString*(*rprim*).
 - d. **ReturnIfAbrupt**(*rstr*).
 - e. Return the String that is the result of concatenating *lstr* and *rstr*.
12. Let *lnum* be *ToNumber*(*lprim*).
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NOTE 1 No hint is provided in the calls to *ToPrimitive* in steps 7 and 9. All standard objects except Date objects handle the absence of a hint as if the hint Number were given; Date objects handle the absence of a hint as if the hint String were given. Exotic objects may handle the absence of a hint in some other manner.

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Local outcome

Number Conversion, Number Add

String Conversion, String Add

Side effects

JS property access
User method invocations
Proxy method invocations

Challenge: untyped variables and operations

```
function add(a, b) {  
  return a + b;  
}  
add(1, 2);  
add("foo", 1);  
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add("hello", {toString: () => "me"});  
add(1.01, 3.03);
```

- Variables, parameters, properties, and expressions do not have types
- Operators are overloaded for different types of values

Challenge: eval

```
function add(a, b) {  
    return eval(a) + b;  
}  
add(1, 2);  
add("b = 30", 1);
```

- The eval operator evaluates a string as if the code was injected directly into the scope
- Can modify locals, introduce new locals, and other horrible things

Challenge: eval

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function add(a, b) {  
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- The eval operator evaluates a string as if the code was injected directly into the scope
- **Can modify locals**, introduce new locals, and other horrible things

Other challenges

```
function one(a, b) {  
    var x = a + y;  
    var y = 3; // funky scoping  
}  
  
with (o) { print(x); } // with scopes  
  
function doit(x) {  
    print(arguments); // arguments objects  
}  
  
function* all(x) {  
    for (y in x) yield y; // generators  
}
```

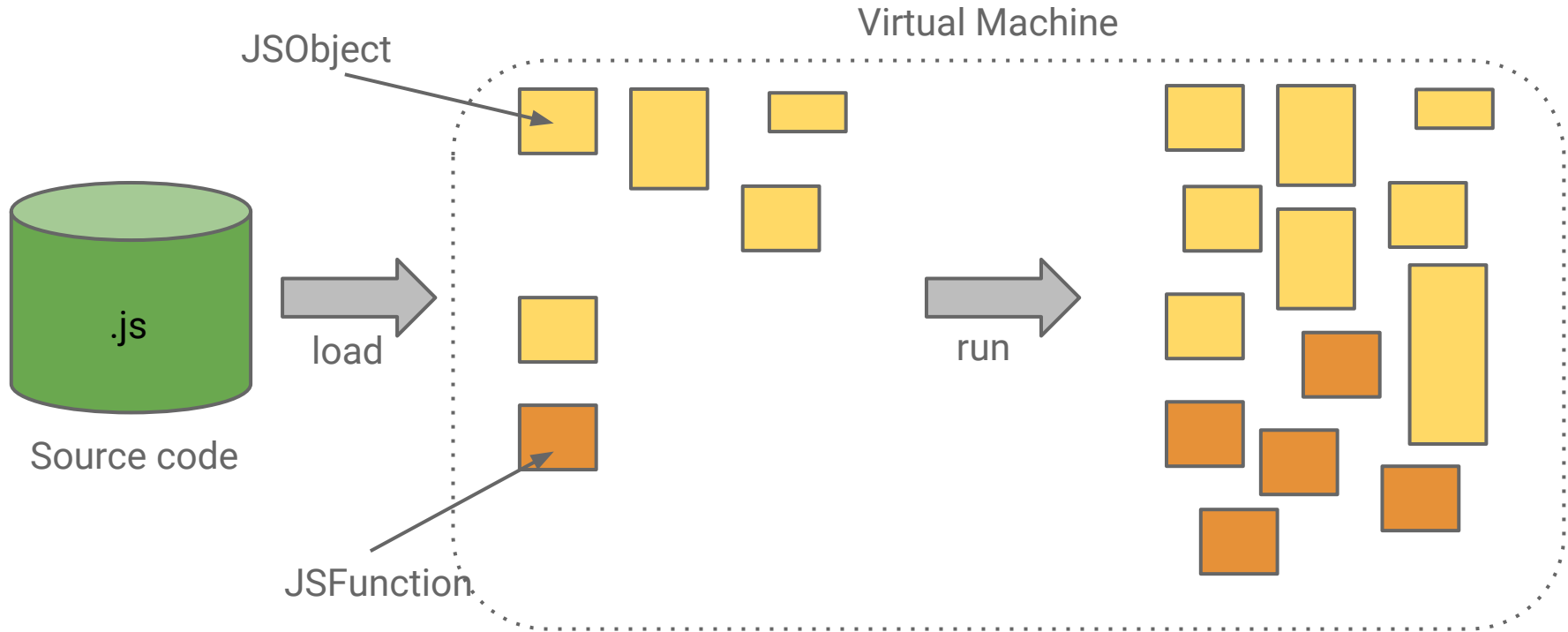
- Lots of neat and surprisingly tricky features
- Most interact poorly
- Conversion gotchas, like the odd falsy object
- Proxies
- Web compatibility issues

The V8 Approach

What makes V8 unique and interesting?

- V8 was the first really fast JavaScript Virtual Machine
 - Launched with Chrome in 2008
 - 10x faster than competition at release
 - 10x faster today than 2008
- Efficient object model using “hidden classes,” a technique from Self VM
- JITs galore
 - Fast AST-walking JIT compiler: fullcodegen (2008) with inline caching
 - Optimizing JIT compiler: Crankshaft (2010) with type feedback and deoptimization
 - Optimizing JIT compiler: TurboFan (2015) with type and range analysis, sea of nodes
- GCs galore
 - Evolution from simple generational collector to incremental and concurrent collector
 - Scheduling GC to reduce jank and save memory

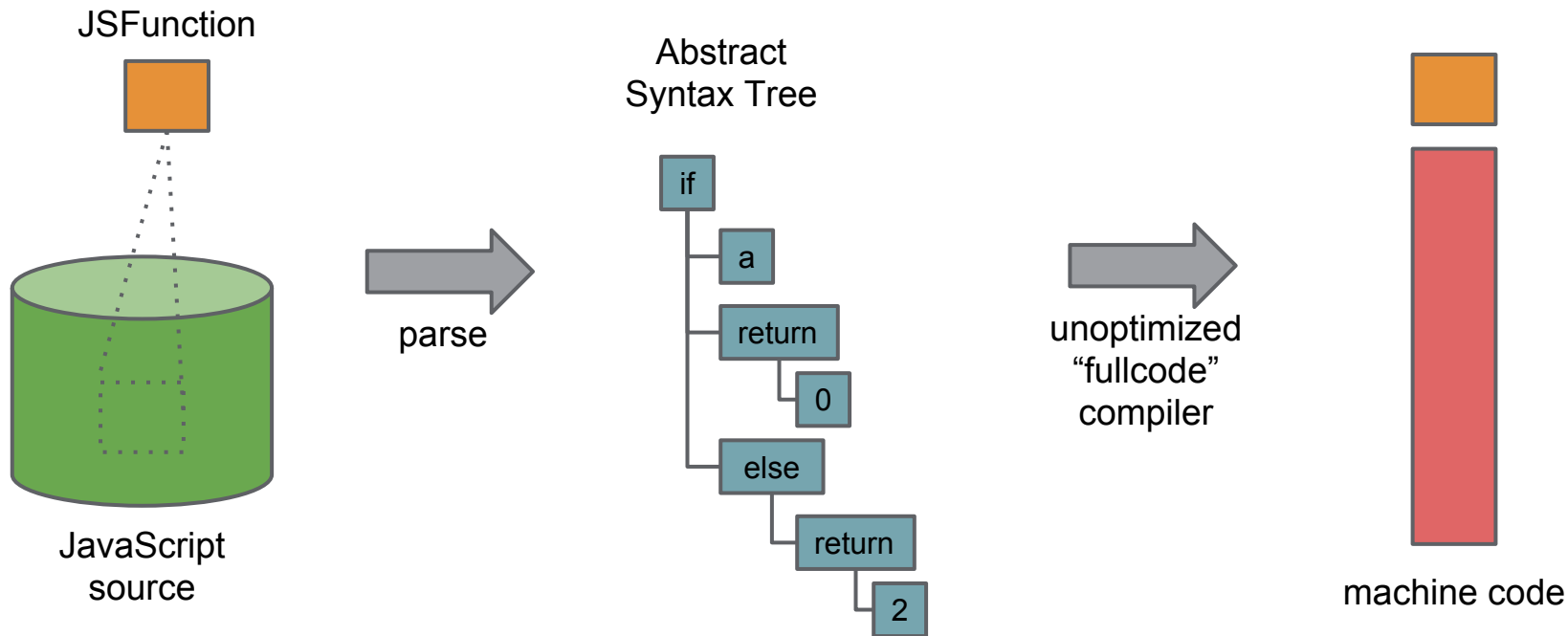
JavaScript Program Lifetime



V8 Approach: parsing

- Parsing has to be fast
 - Parsing JS is hard: hand-written, recursive descent parser
- Two modes:
 - preparse (detect structure only)
 - full (build AST) ~3x slower
- Lazy parsing:
 - A full parse of a function isn't done until needed to execute it
 - Preparser finds boundaries of functions to quickly parse them later
- Streaming parsing:
 - Parse while script is downloading over the wire

V8 Approach: lazy compilation

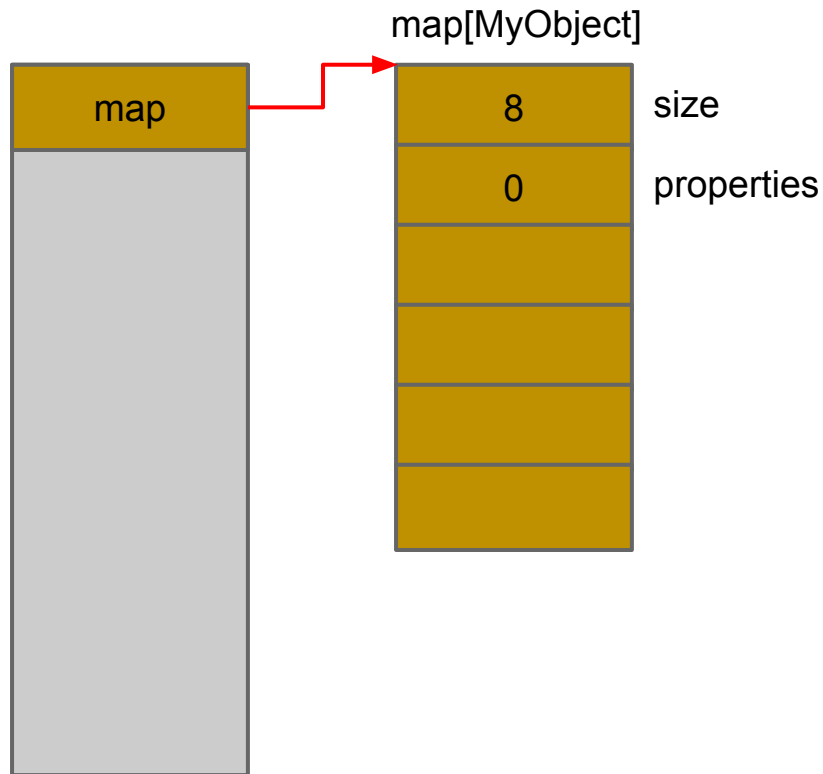


V8 Approach: object model

```
function MyObject(name, data) {  
    this.name = name;  
    this.data = data;  
    return this;  
}  
var x = new MyObject("string", 0);  
x.extra = 44;
```

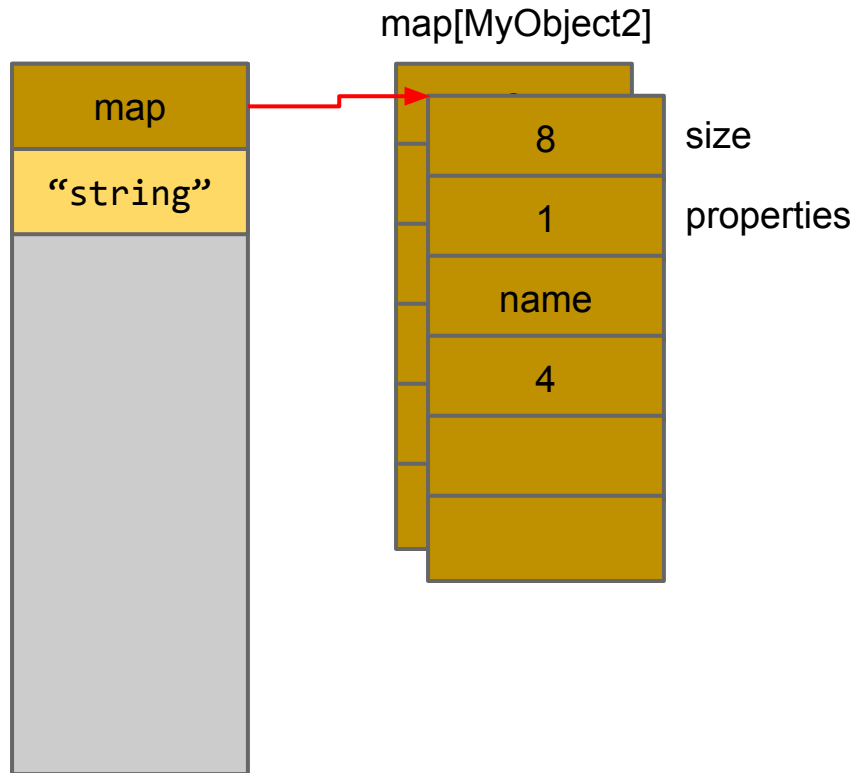
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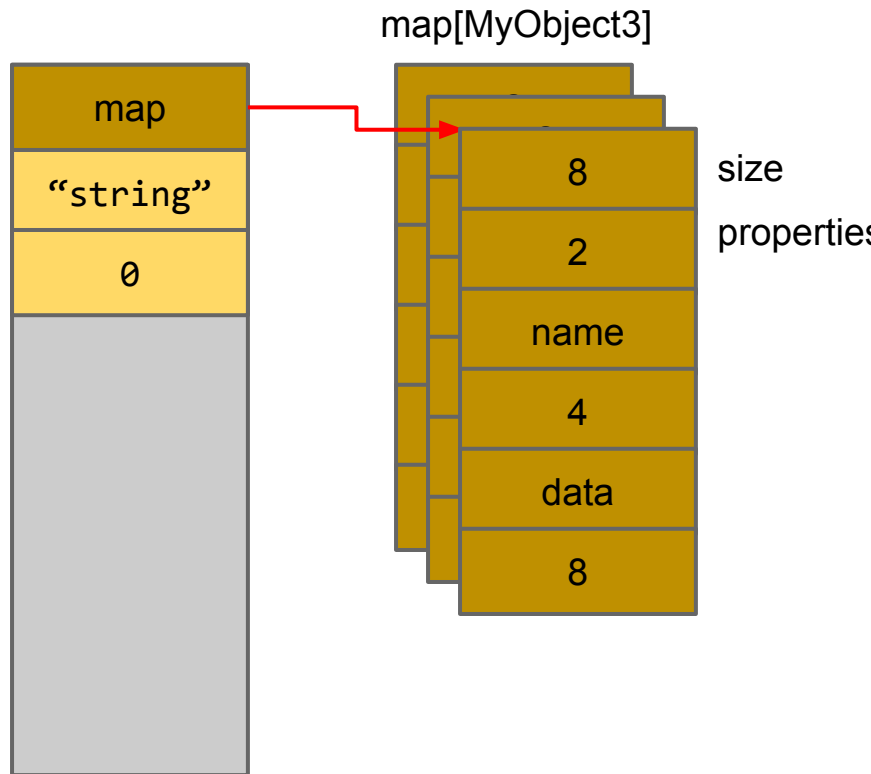
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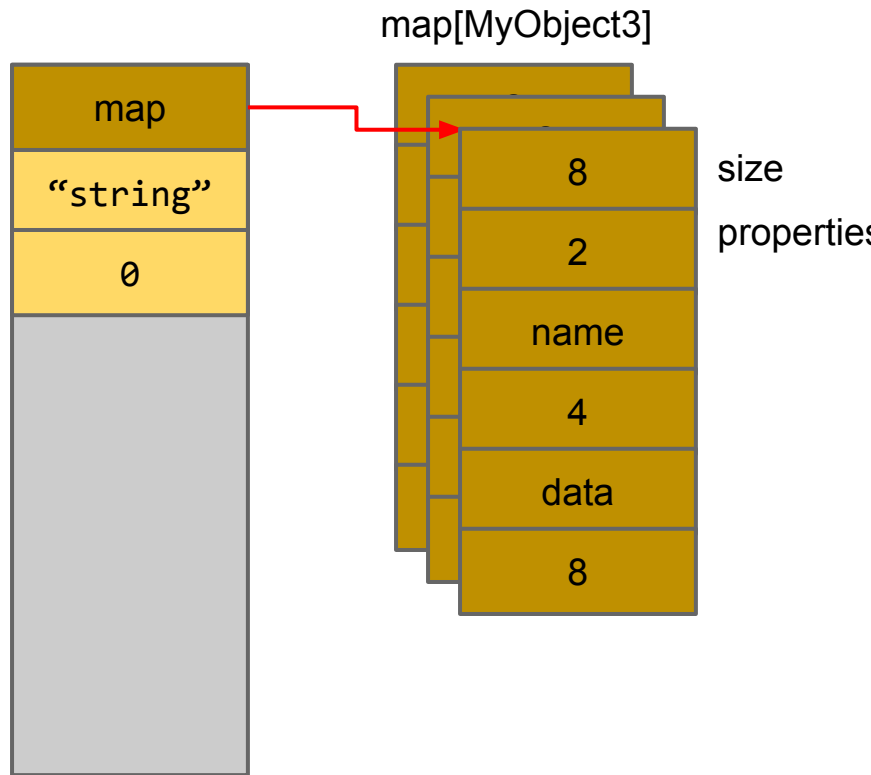
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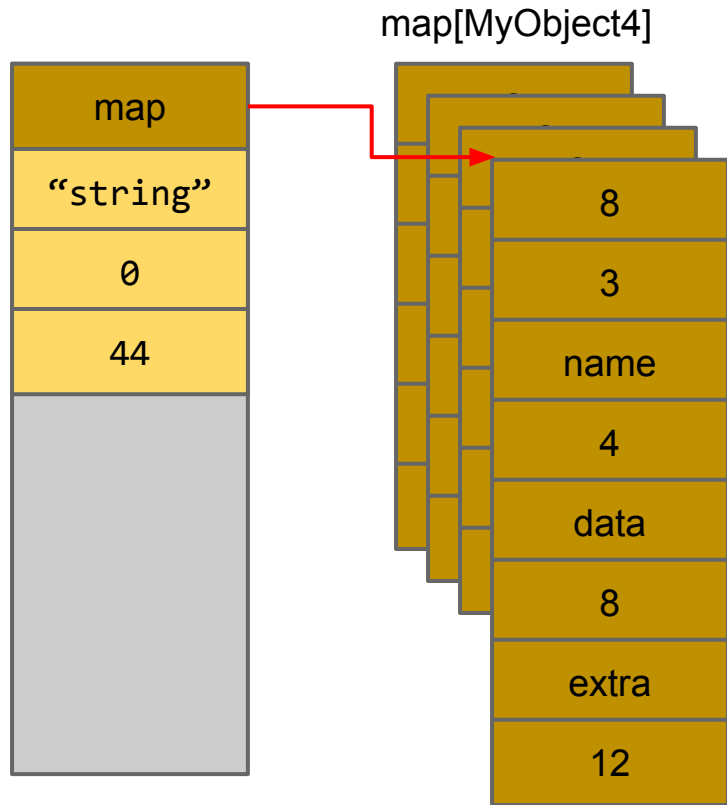
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}  
var x = new MyObject("string", 0);  
x.extra = 44;
```

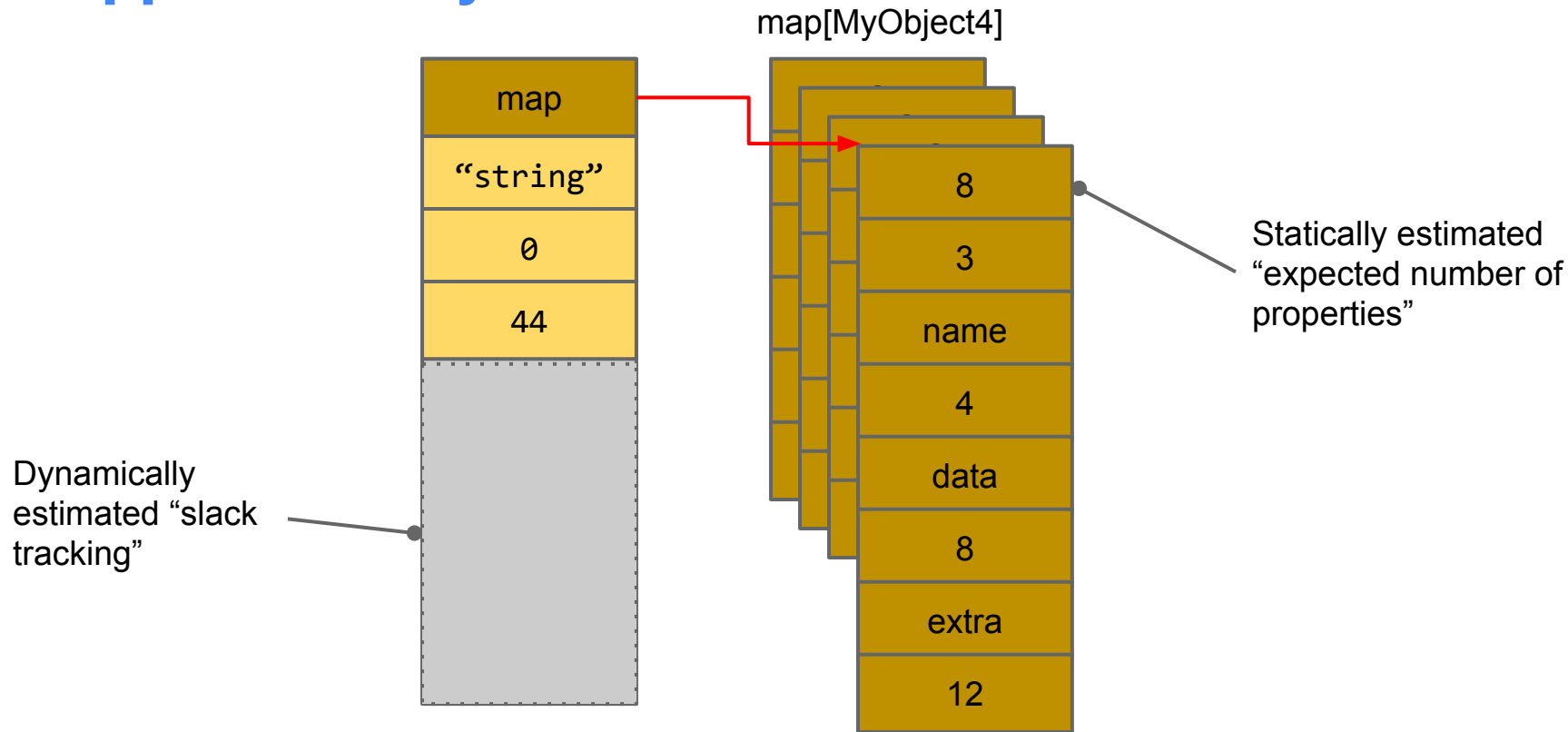


V8 Approach: object model

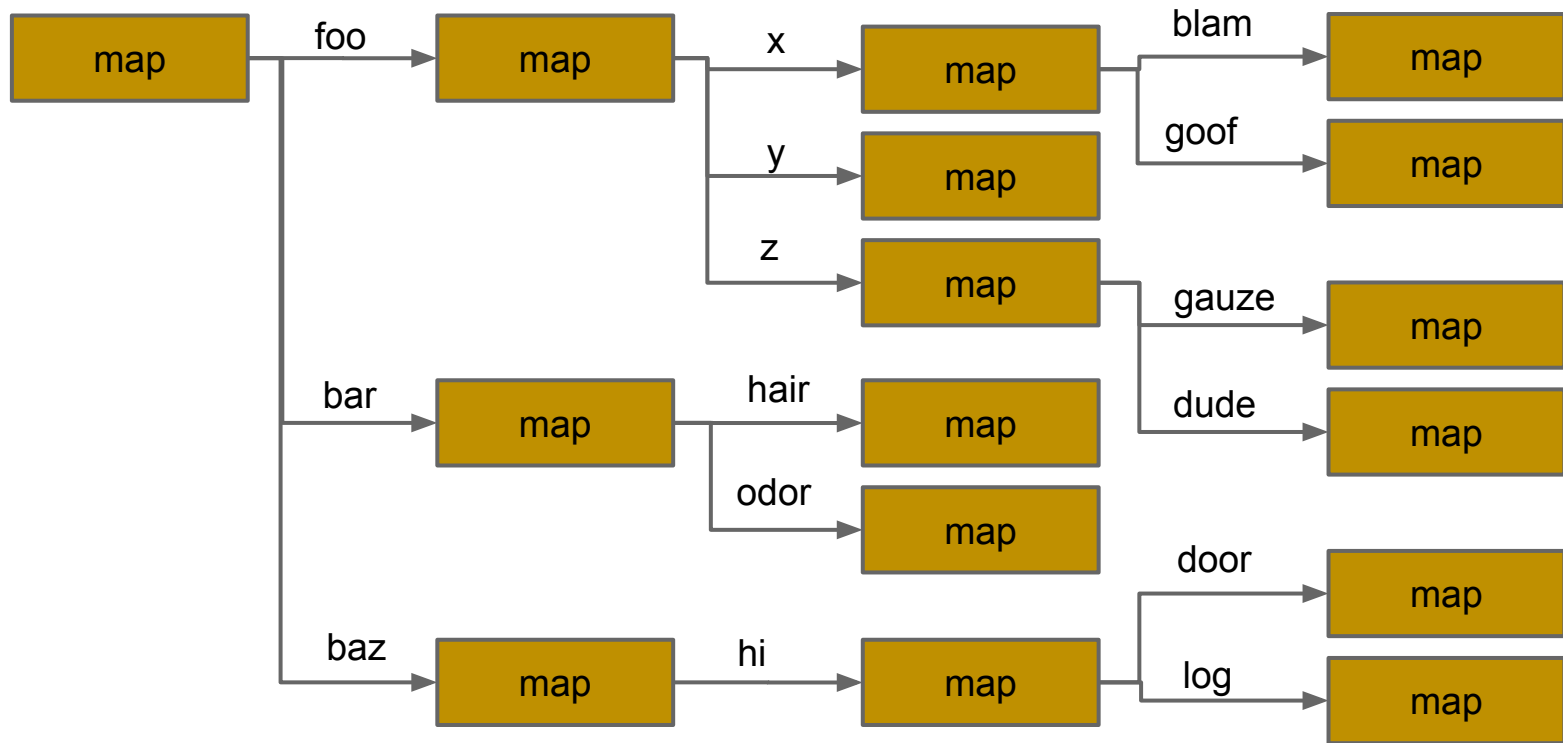
```
function MyObject(name, data) {  
  this.name = name;  
  this.data = data;  
  return this;  
}  
var x = new MyObject("string", 0);  
x.extra = 44;
```



V8 Approach: object model

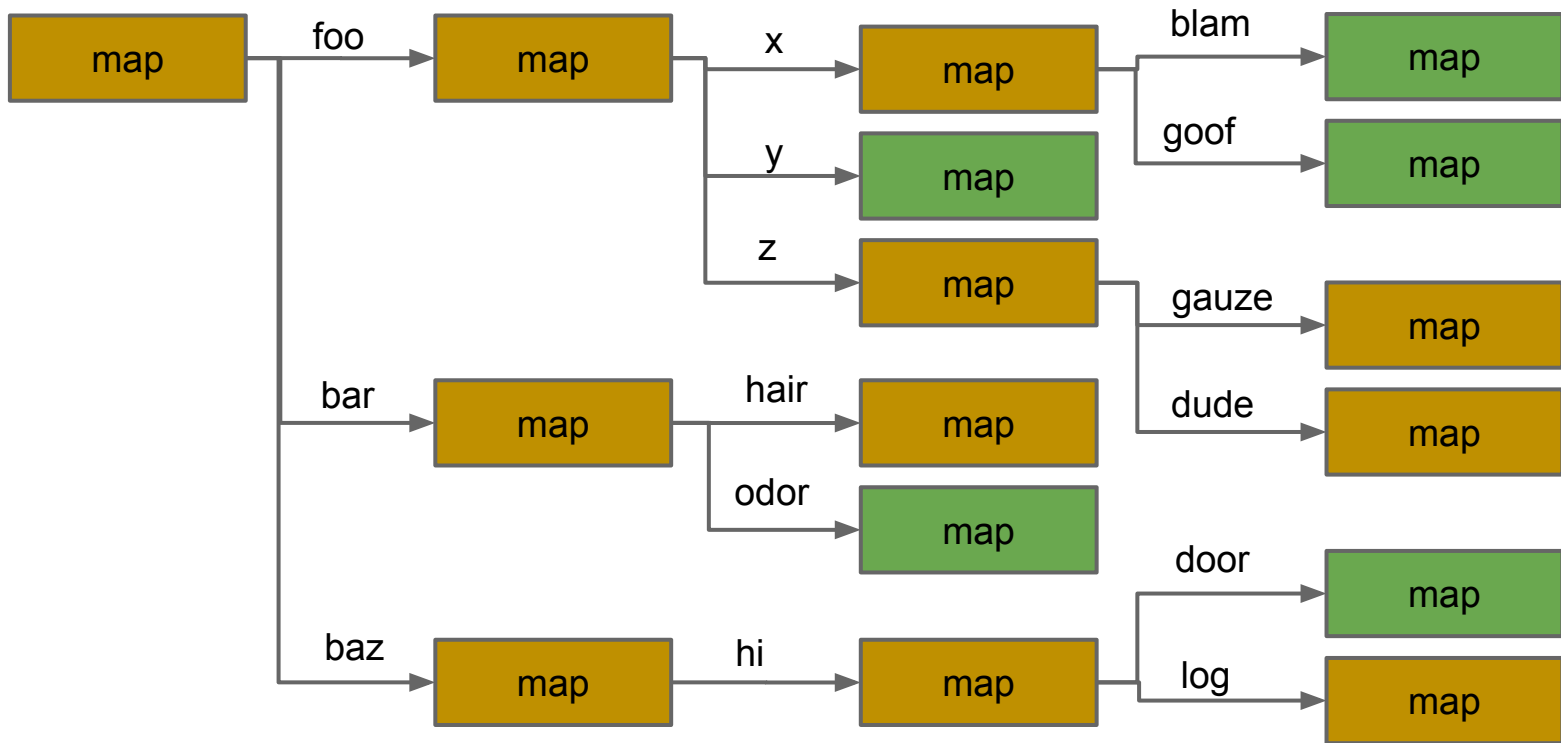


V8 Approach: map forest



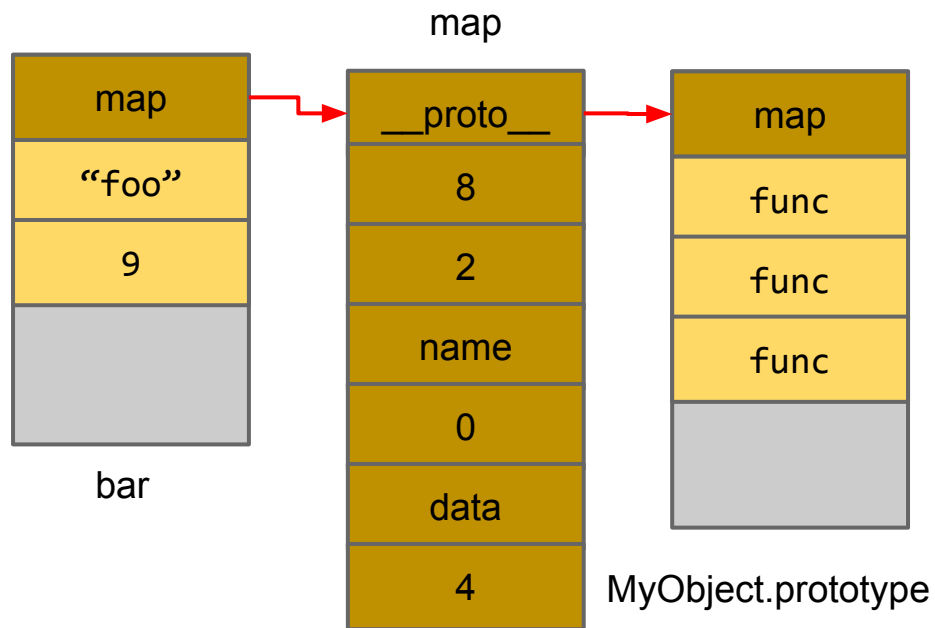
V8 Approach: map forest

potentially
stable map

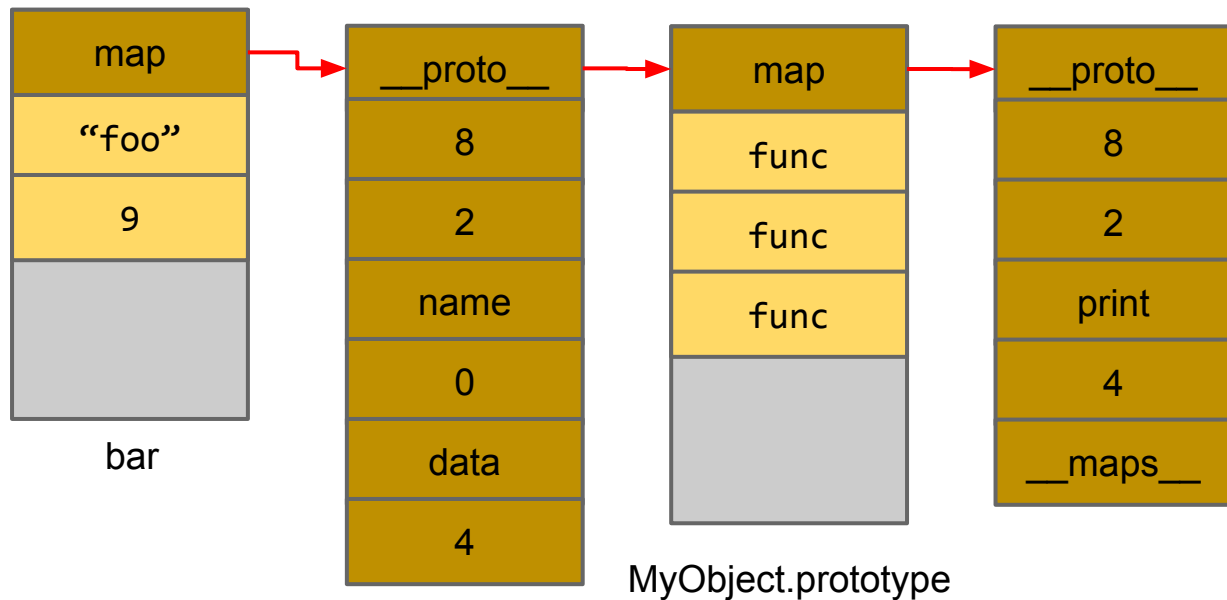


V8 Approach: object model

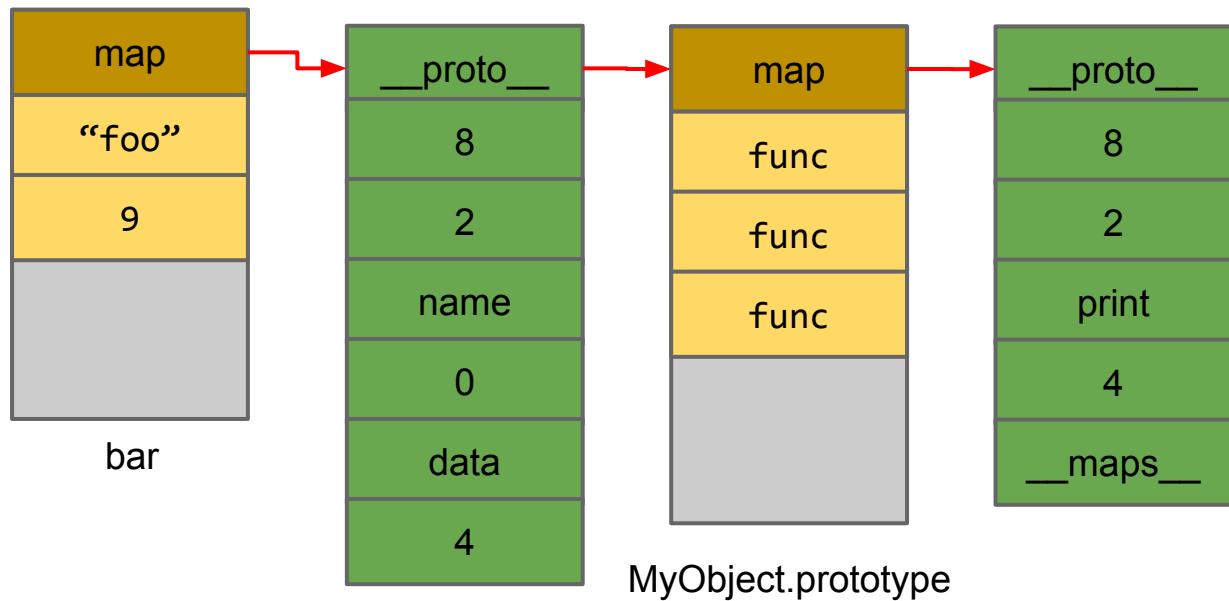
```
function MyObject(name, data) {  
  this.name = name;  
  this.data = data;  
  return this;  
}  
MyObject.prototype.print =  
  function() {  
    print("name: " + this.name);  
    print("data: " + this.data);  
  }  
var bar = new MyObject("foo", 9);
```



V8 Approach: object model



V8 Approach: object model



V8 Approach: untyped variables and operations

```
function add(a, b) {  
  return a + b;  
}  
add(1, 2);  
add(300, 1);  
add(400.5, 1);  
add(1.01, 3.03);  
add("foo", bar);
```

Dynamically record
types of inputs to
overloaded
operations

V8 Approach: untyped variables and operations

```
function add(a, b) {  
  return a + b;  
}  
add(1, 2);  
add(300, 1);  
add(400.5, 1);  
add(1.01, 3.03);  
add("foo", bar);
```

Dynamically record
types of inputs to
overloaded
operations

Most dynamism is site-specific
and stable. Normally safe to
assume that what happened last
time will happen the next time.

V8 Approach: untyped variables and operations

```
function add(a, b) {  
  return a + b;  
}  
add(1, 2);  
add(300, 1);  
add(400.5, 1);  
add(1.01, 3.03);  
add("foo", bar);
```

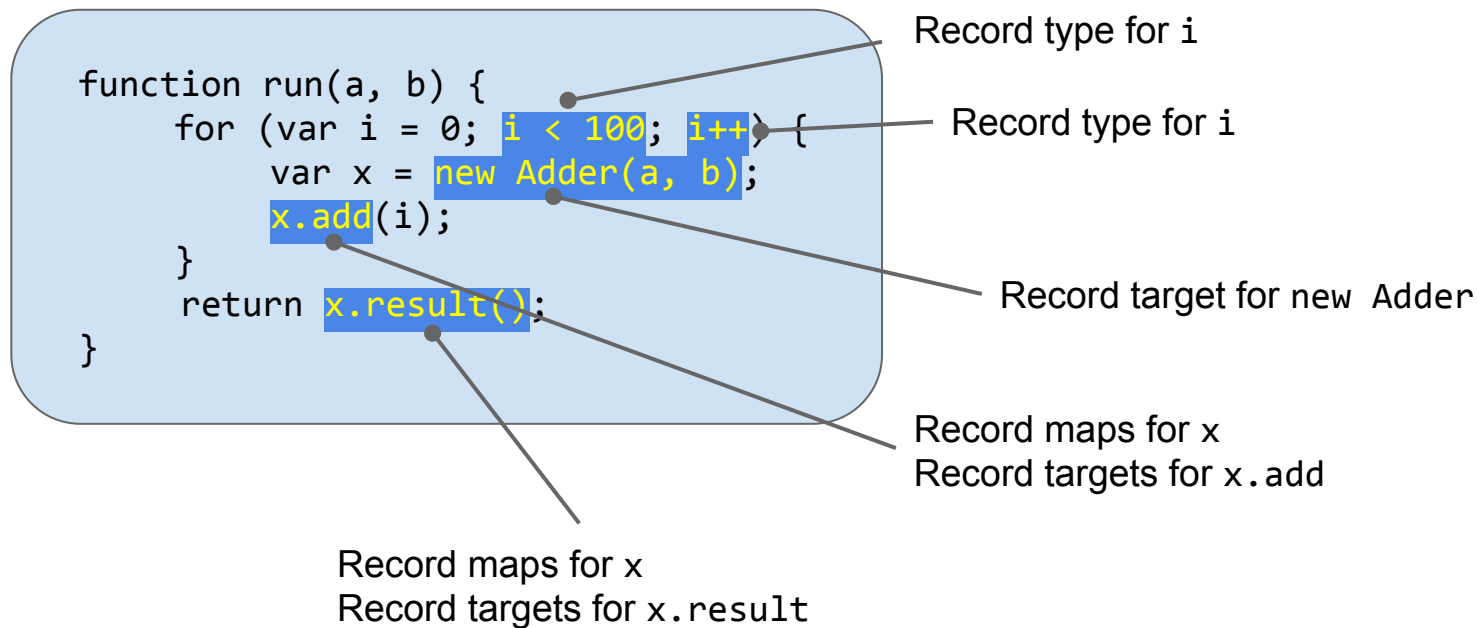
“Usually numbers” they said!

Except they lied!
Always have a backup plan.

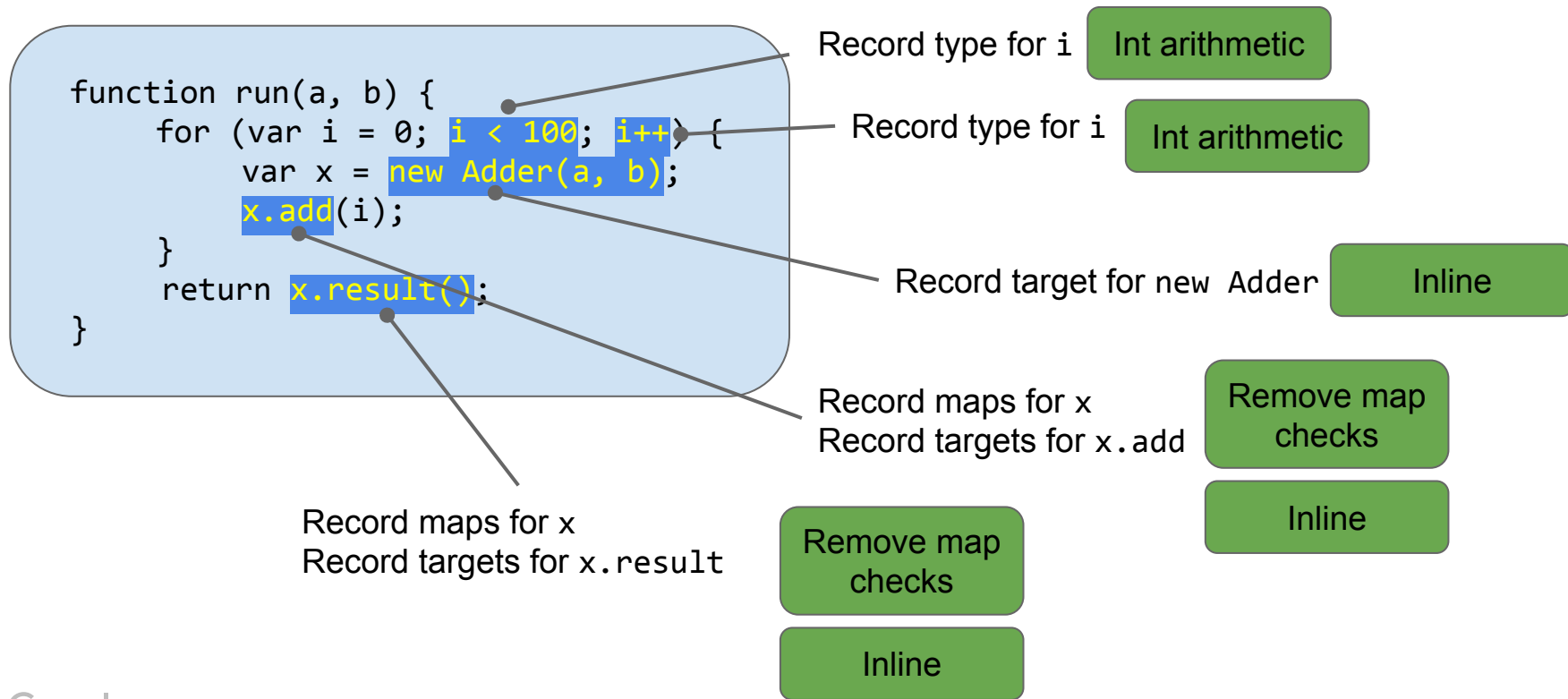
V8 Approach: adaptive optimization

```
function run(a, b) {  
  for (var i = 0; i < 100; i++) {  
    var x = new Adder(a, b);  
    x.add(i);  
  }  
  return x.result();  
}
```

V8 Approach: adaptive optimization

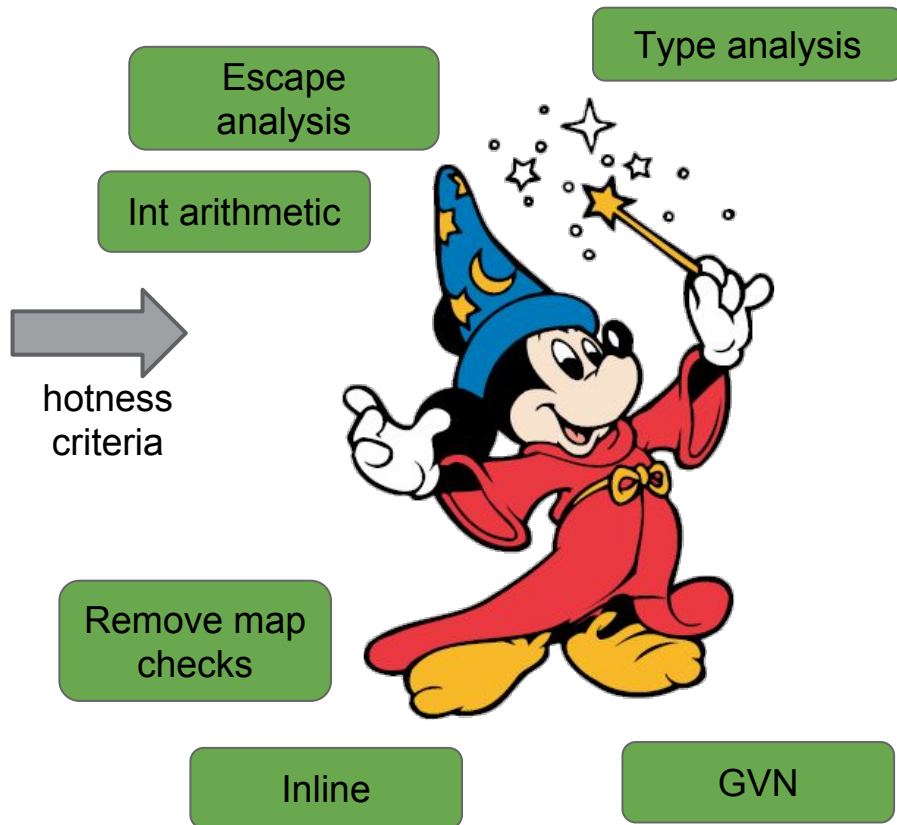


V8 Approach: adaptive optimization



V8 Approach: adaptive optimization

```
function run(a, b) {  
  for (var i = 0; i < 100; i++) {  
    var x = new Adder(a, b);  
    x.add(i);  
  }  
  return x.result();  
}
```



V8 Approach: adaptive optimization

```
function run(a, b) {  
  for (var i = 0; i < 100; i++) {  
    var x = new Adder(a, b);  
    x.add(i);  
  }  
  return x.result();  
}
```



optimized
compile



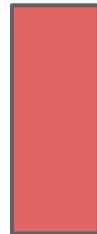
optimized
code

V8 Approach: adaptive optimization

```
function run(a, b) {  
  for (var i = 0; i < 100; i++) {  
    var x = new Adder(a, b);  
    x.add(i);  
  }  
  return x.result();  
}
```



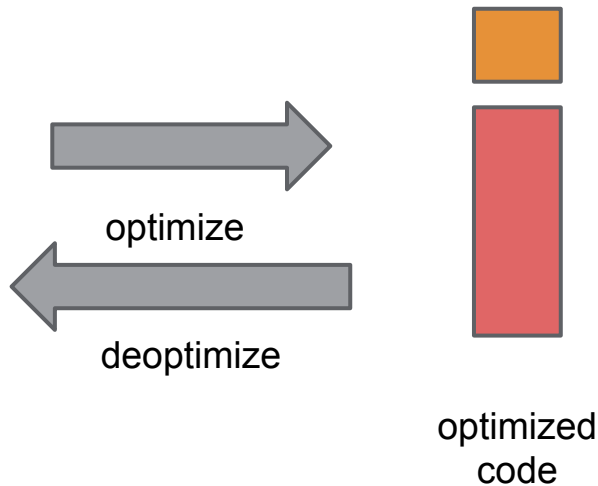
deoptimize
upon failed
speculation



optimized
code

V8 Approach: adaptive optimization

```
function run(a, b) {  
  for (var i = 0; i < 100; i++) {  
    var x = new Adder(a, b);  
    x.add(i);  
  }  
  return x.result();  
}
```



A Zoo of Tiers

FullCodeGen
Unoptimized compiler



CrankShaft
optimizing compiler

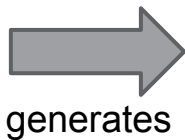


TurboFan
optimizing compiler



A Zoo of Tiers (4)

TurboFan
optimizing compiler

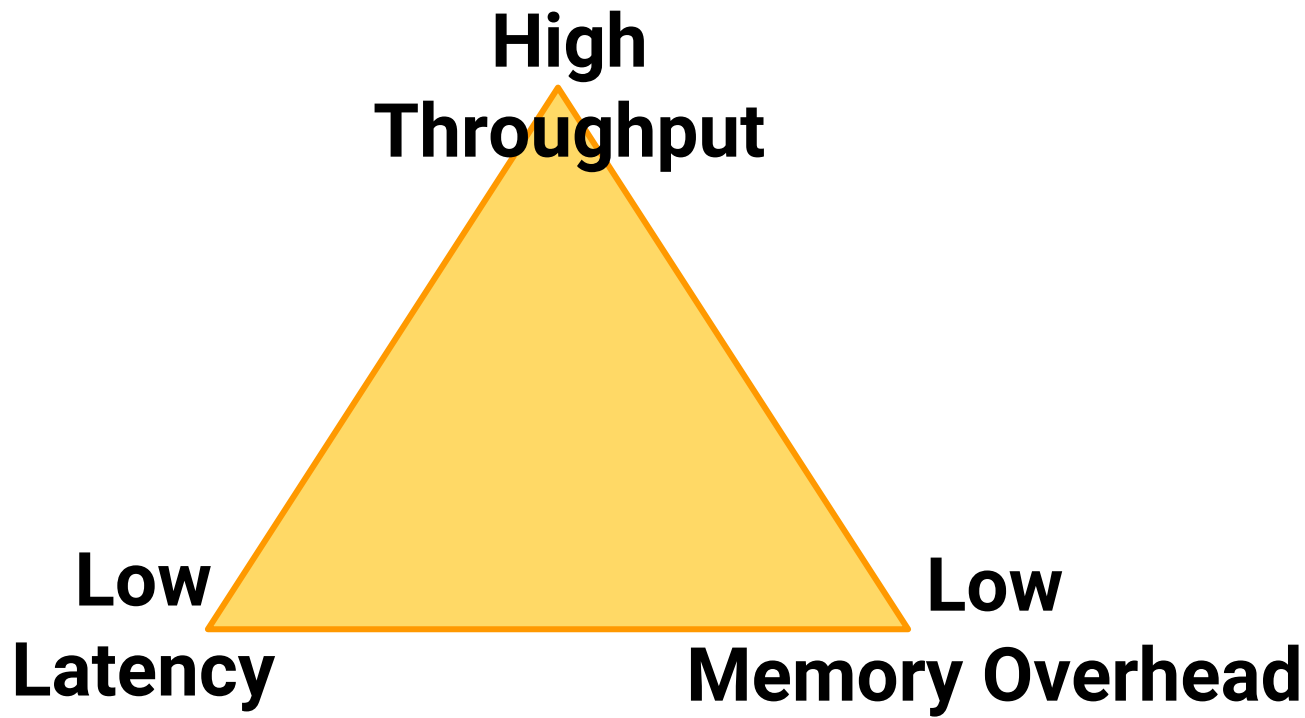


Ignition
interpreter



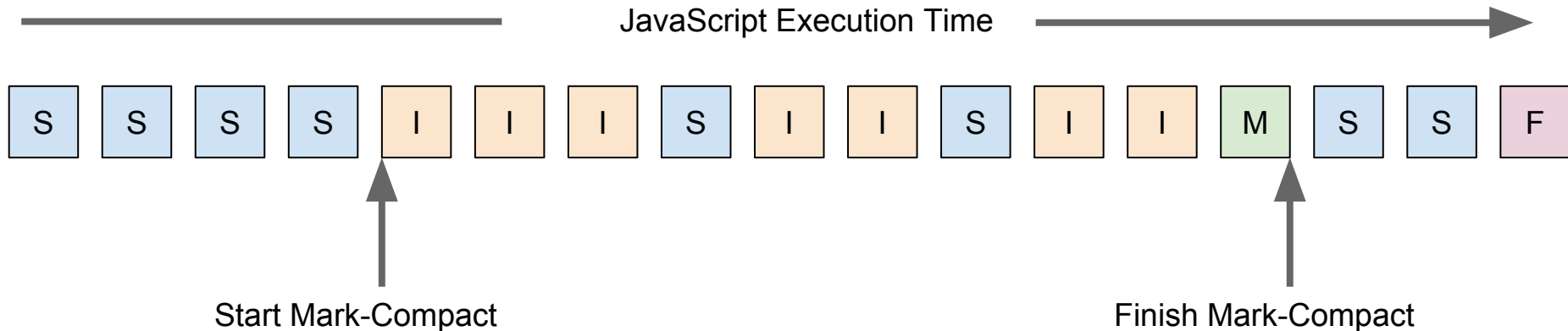
- Faster startup!
- Saves memory!
- Still portable!
(11 supported TurboFan archs)

The Impossible Garbage Collection Triad



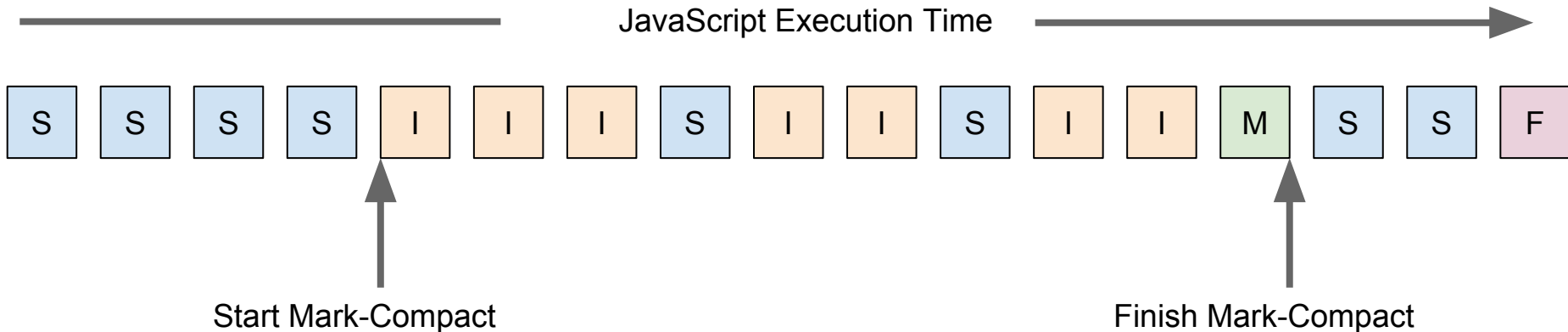
V8 Garbage Collection

- S** Scavenger (~0-10 ms)
- I** Incremental Marking (~0.01-CONFIGURABLE ms)
- M** Final Mark-Compact Collection (~4-40 ms)
- F** Full Mark-Compact Collection (>40ms)



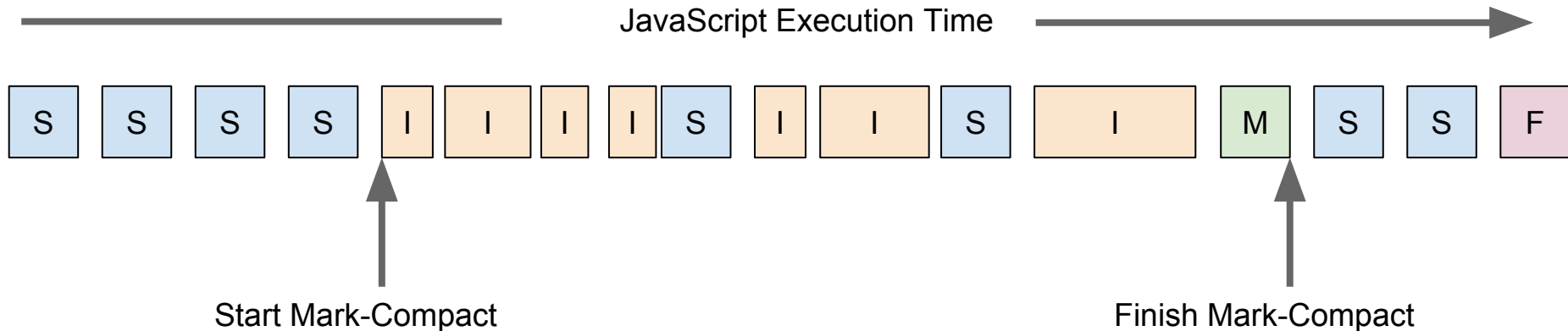
Estimating GC pauses

- S** Scavenger (~0-10 ms)
- I** Incremental Marking (~0.01-CONFIGURABLE ms)
- M** Final Mark-Compact Collection (~4-40 ms)
- F** Full Mark-Compact Collection (>40ms)



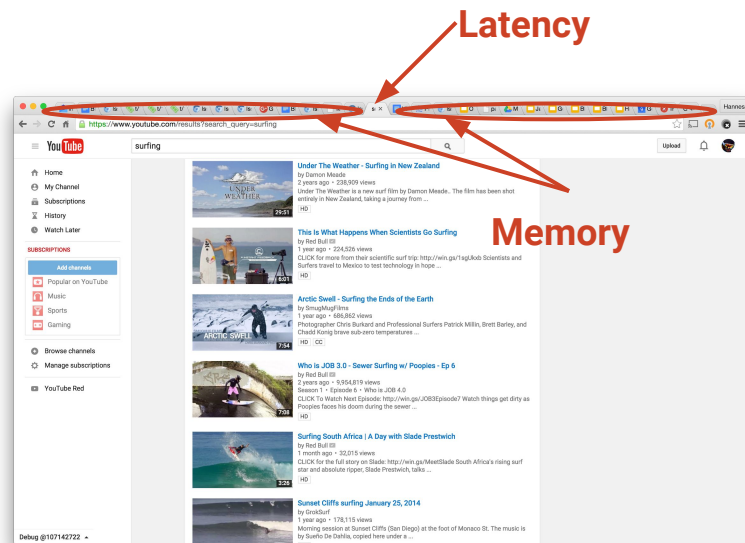
Estimating GC pauses

- S** Scavenger (~0-10 ms)
- I** Incremental Marking (~0.01-CONFIGURABLE ms)
- M** Final Mark-Compact Collection (~4-40 ms)
- F** Full Mark-Compact Collection (>40ms)



Latency versus Memory Overhead

- Foreground tab
 - Latency is critical
 - New frames are drawn every 16.66 ms when animation or scrolling happens
 - Reducing memory becomes important as soon as the tab becomes inactive
- Background tabs
 - Memory consumption more important than latency
 - Idle tabs can be aggressively garbage collected to save memory



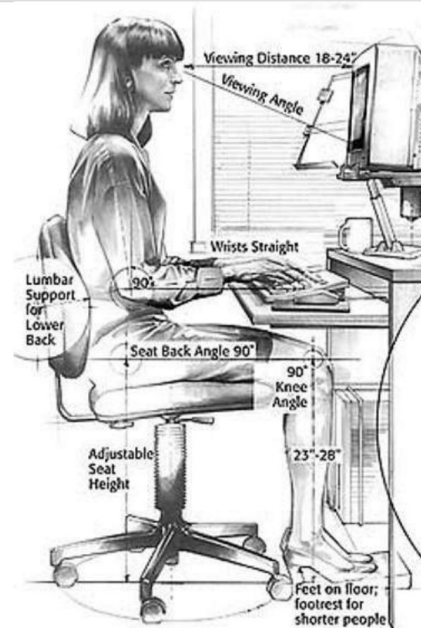
Idea: Make garbage collection invisible



When is the best time to do a GC?

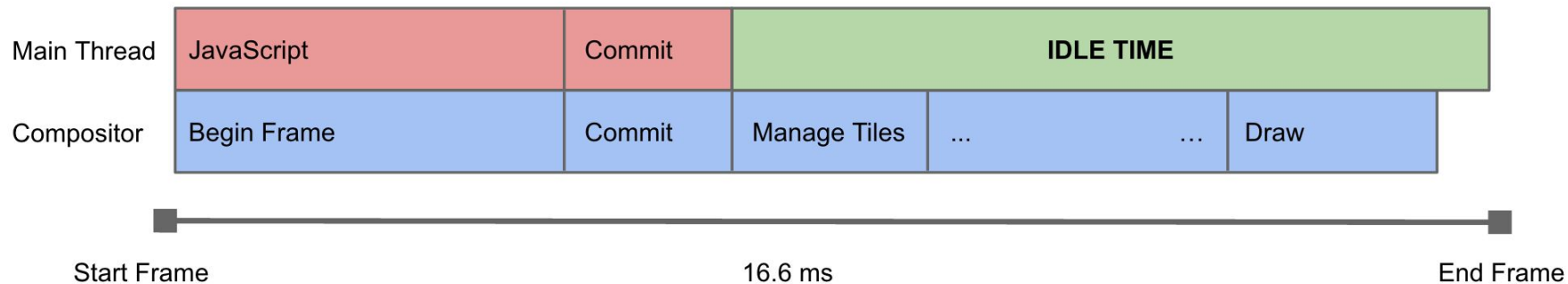
When nobody is looking.

Using camera to track eye movement
When subject looks away do a GC.

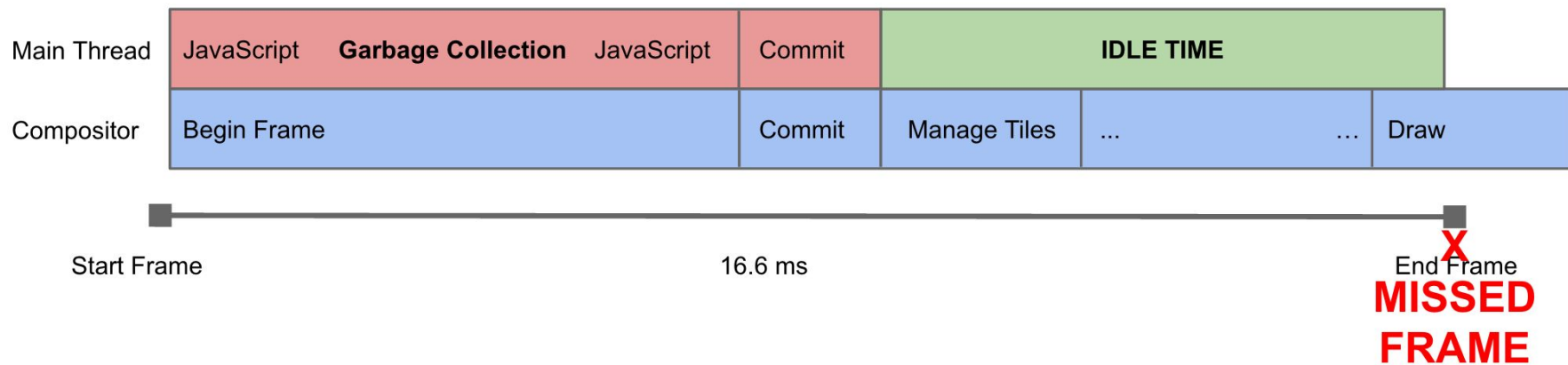


https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/35/Computer_Workstation_Variables.jpg

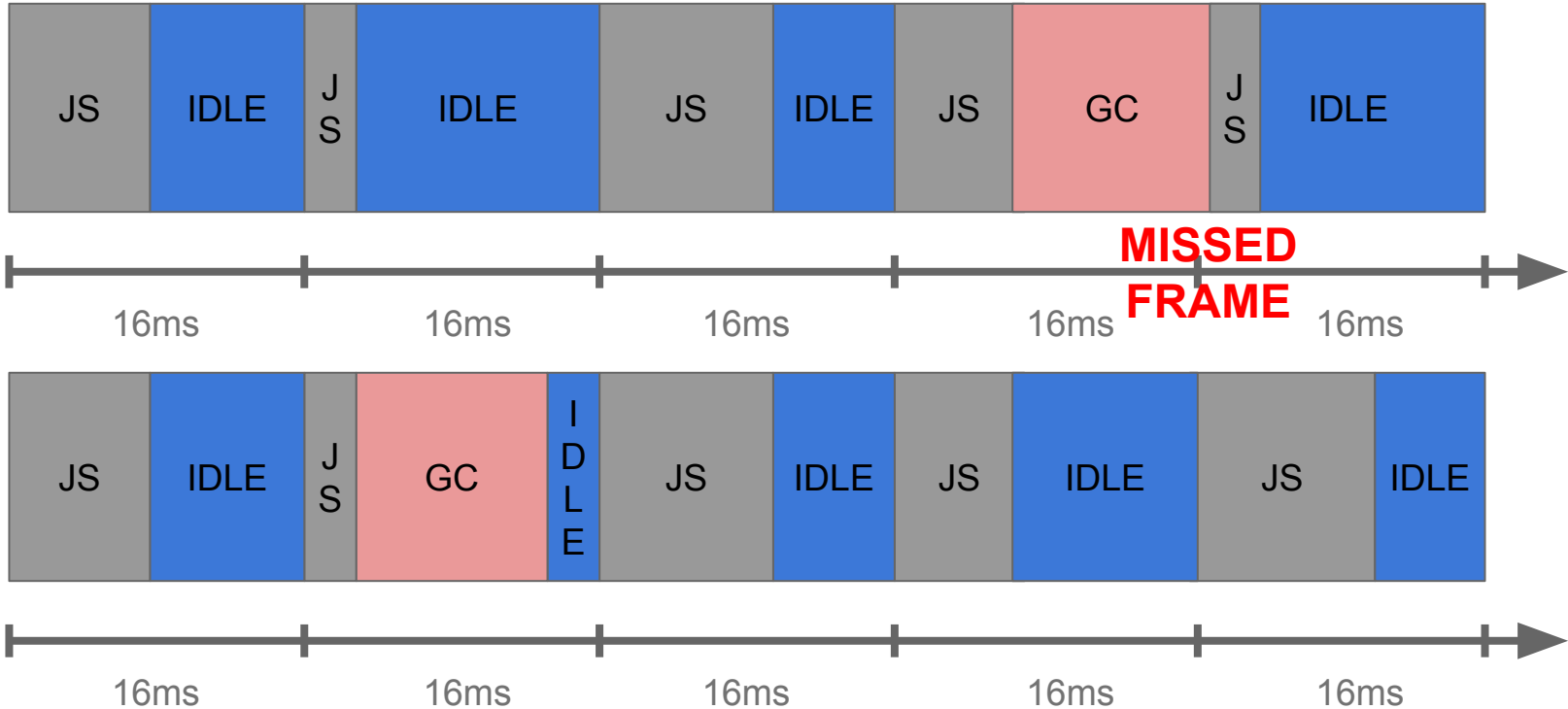
Life of an animation Frame



Life of an animation Frame

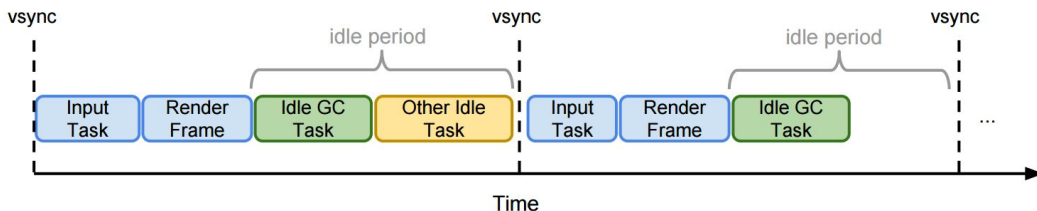


Life of a frame

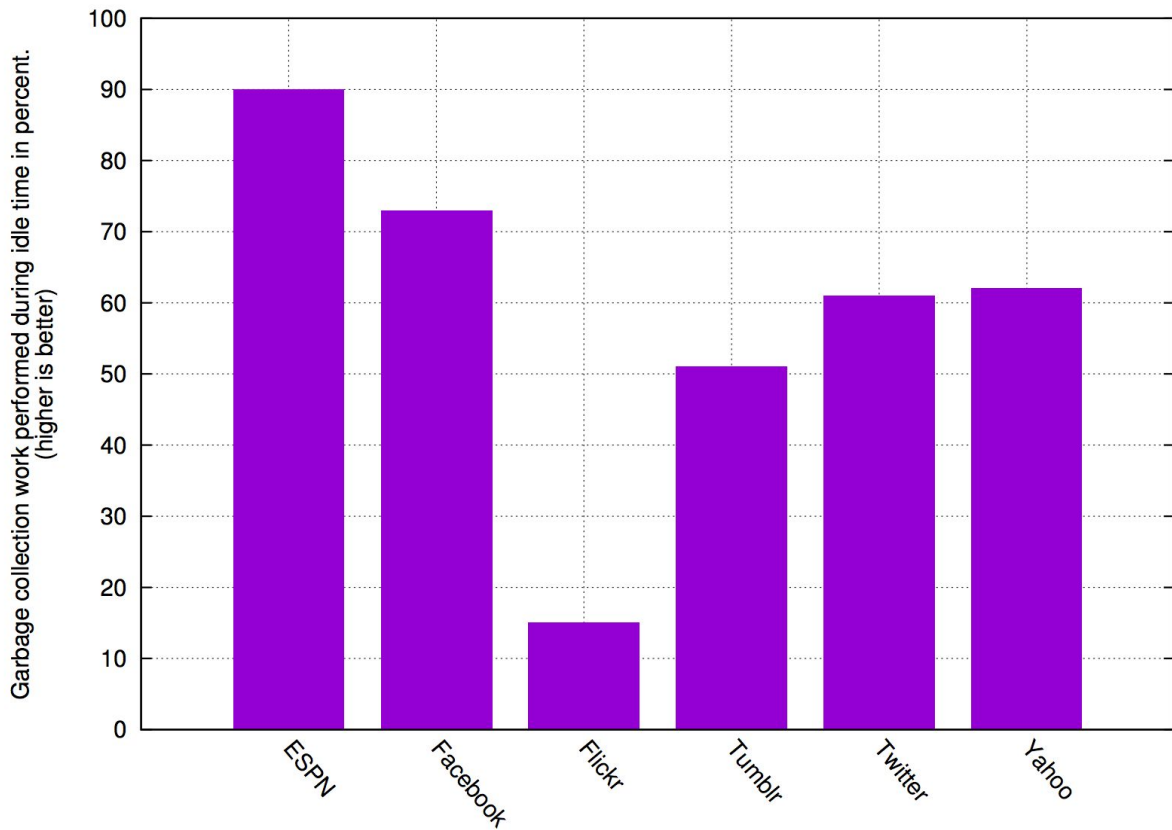


Latency-driven Idle Time GC Scheduling (PLDI16)

- V8 heuristics tries to estimate:
 - average young generation collection speed/MB
 - average incremental marking speed/MB
 - average finalization of mark-compact speed/MB
- V8 registers an *idle garbage collection task* in the Chrome scheduler when a given garbage collection operation should happen soon
- The task scheduler will execute it when there is idle time
 - apportioning up to 50ms to perform garbage collection



Telemetry Infinite Scrolling Benchmarks



WebAssembly

(demo)

Motivation for WebAssembly

- Big pressure to bring native code to the web
 - Competition with installed mobile apps (Android, iOS)
 - Big-time OpenGL apps: games, CAD programs, maps
 - Extensibility: audio/video codecs
- Existing solutions fall short
 - JavaScript increasing contortions to serve as a compilation target
 - PNaCl encountered heavy industry resistance
- Demand for new language capabilities limited by JS bottleneck
 - SIMD
 - SharedArrayBuffer
 - Threads

asm.js? what's that?

x: int32
y: int32

x: float64
y: float64

a = x + y

a = x + y | 0

a = +(x + y)

**Normal
JavaScript**

ToNumber?
ToString?
StringAdd?
IntegerAdd?
DoubleAdd?

asm.js

Int32Add
a: int32

asm.js

Float64Add
a: float64

asm.js? what's that? (2)

```
var buffer = new ArrayBuffer(16 * 1024 * 1024);
function module(buffer, stdlib) {
  "use asm";
  var heap8 = new Int8Array(buffer);
  function foo(a) {
    a = a | 0;
    return heap8[a] + 1 | 0;
  }
  return {foo: foo}
}

var mod = module(buffer, {print: print});
mod.foo(100);
```

asm.js? what's that? (3)

- Emscripten: A POSIX-like platform with
 - Toolchain based on forked LLVM
 - libc
 - OpenGL (on top of WebGL)
 - a community
 - Game engines
 - Applications
 - Benchmarks

asm.js? what's that? (4)

- 2 engines specially recognize asm.js subset and *validate* that subset
 - Mozilla Firefox - pioneer
 - Microsoft Edge - fast follow
- V8 uses TurboFan's advanced type analysis to recover the same information
 - Within ~X% of custom solution on most benchmarks
 - No inter-procedural optimizations
 - Crossover with optimizing normal JavaScript
- V8 can validate asm.js subset and internally translate to WebAssembly

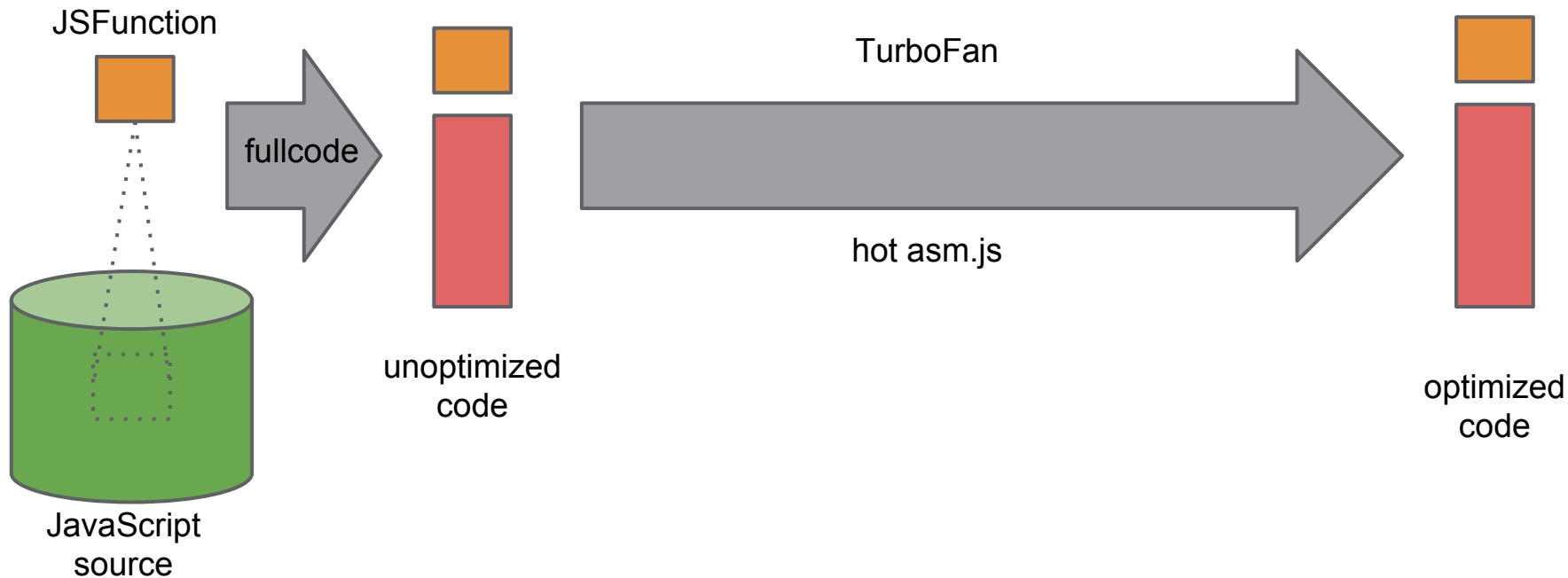
What is WebAssembly?

- A compilation target for native
 - C/C++, other languages -> WASM
- A new capability for the web
 - More than just compressed asm.js
 - float32, int64, threads*, SIMD*
- A complement to JavaScript
 - interface to/from JS code
 - integrate with WebAPIs
- Performance guarantee (ish)
 - Fast calling conventions
 - no boxing, no GC
 - AOT

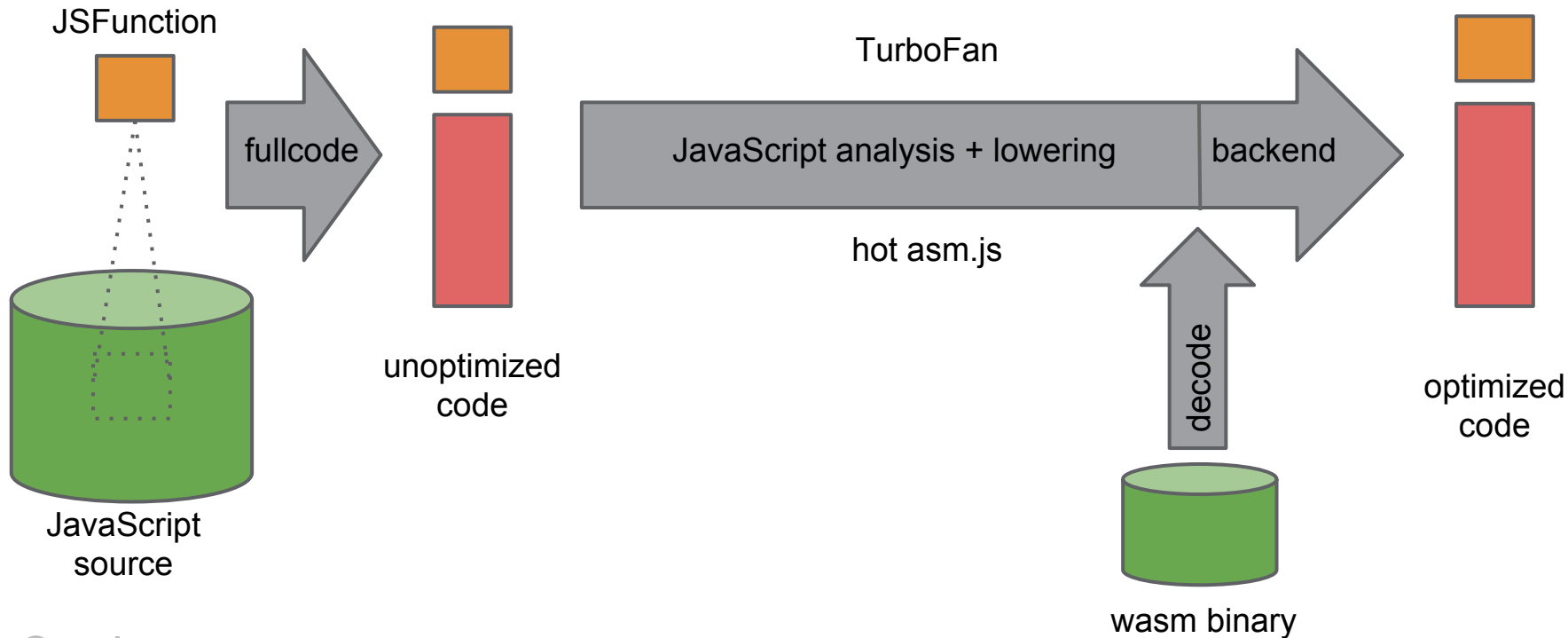
What is WebAssembly not?

- A value judgment about languages
 - JavaScript vs C++ vs Java vs Dart
- The backend of some C compiler
 - LLVM bitcode, gcc GIMPLE, sea of nodes
- A programming language
 - generated and manipulated by tools
- A separate VM within Chrome
 - instead: built on TurboFan and V8

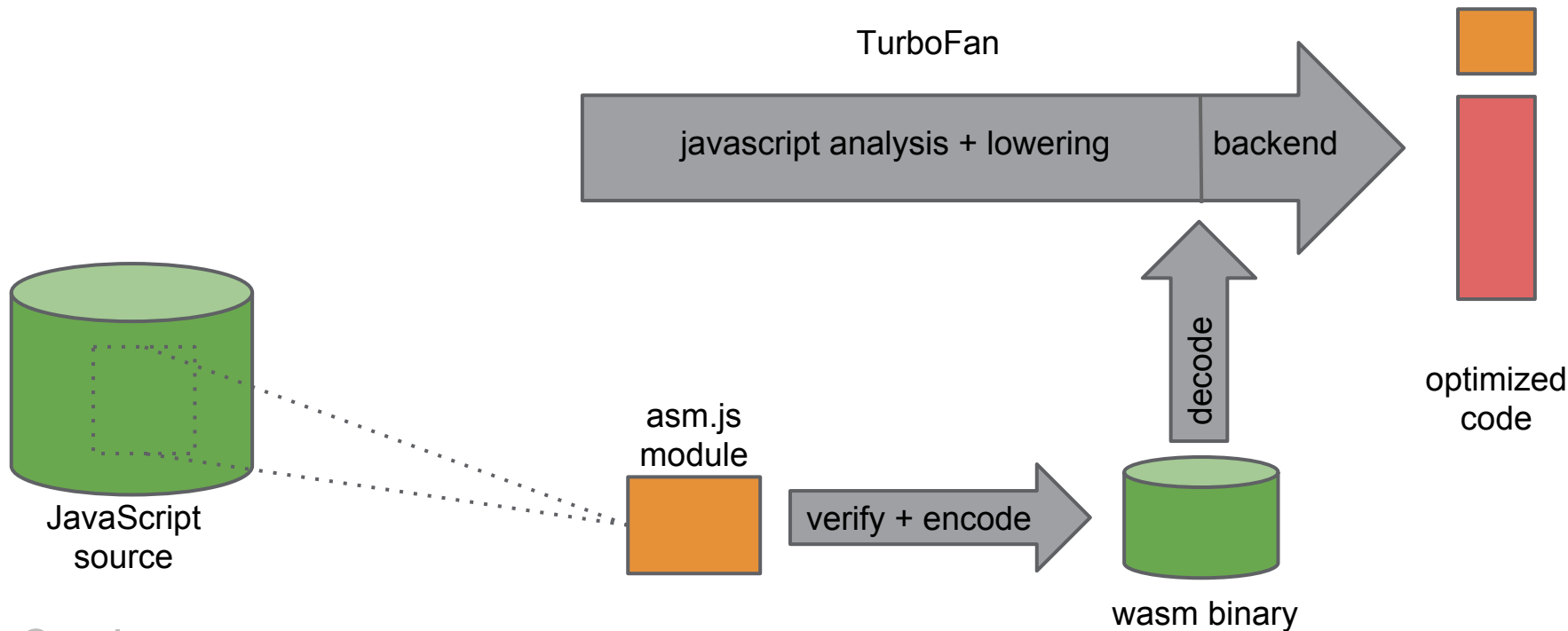
V8 Pipeline Design (asm.js)



V8 Pipeline Design + WASM



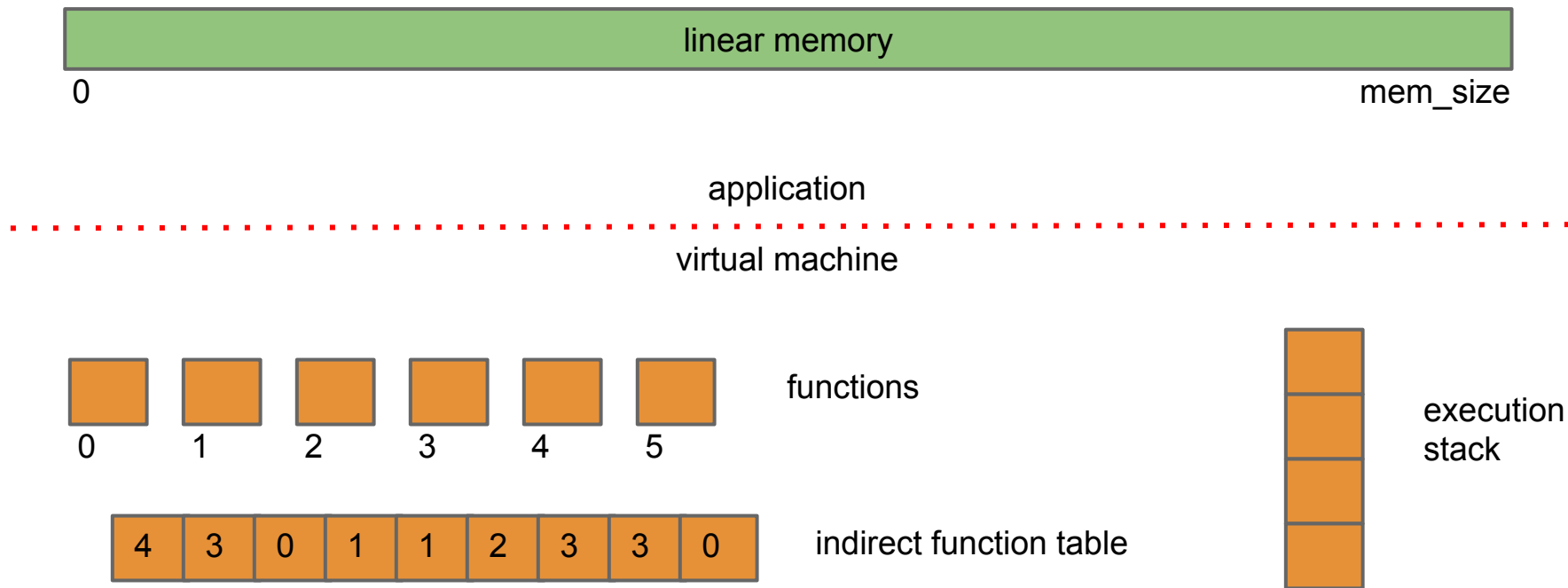
V8 Pipeline Design + asm.js + WASM



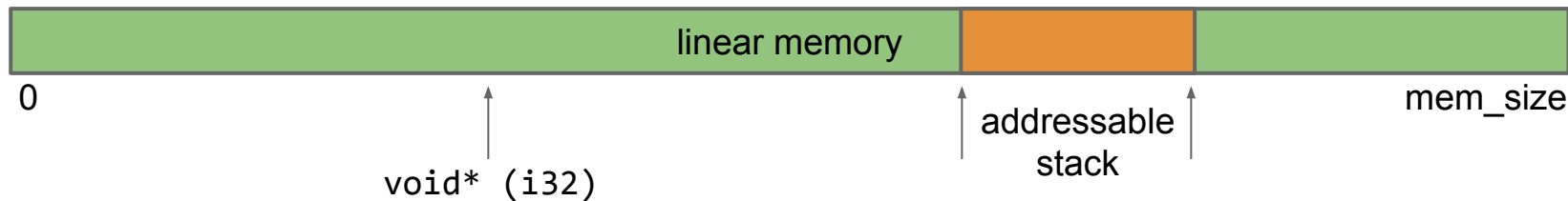
WebAssembly in a nutshell

- Data Types
 - void i32 i64 f32 f64
 - Functions
 - Flat, single global table
 - Static binding
 - Indirect calls through table
 - State: linear memory
 - large, bounds-checked array
 - Trusted execution stack
- Data Operations
 - i32: + - * / % << >> >>> etc
 - i64: + - * / % << >> >>> etc
 - f32: + - * / sqrt ceil floor
 - f64: + - * / sqrt ceil floor
 - conversions
 - load store
 - call_direct call_indirect
 - Structured Control Flow
 - if loop block br switch

WebAssembly trusted and untrusted state

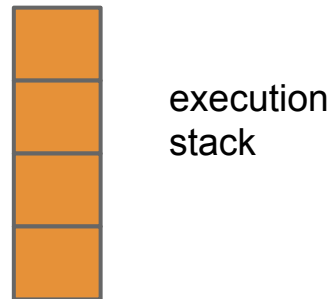


Compiling C/C++ to WebAssembly



virtual machine

- C compiler translates pointers to i32 indices
- C compiler places addressable stack in memory
- asm.js bounds checks (~5% overhead)



WebAssembly binary code

- Goals:
 - compact => smaller than minified JS
 - easy to verify => one linear pass
 - easy to compile => one linear pass to construct IR or baseline JIT
 - extensible => anticipate new bytecodes and types
- Design:
 - AST-based post-order encoding of function bodies
 - All AST nodes are expressions
 - Optional application-specified opcode table

Module structure



- Memory declaration
- Function signatures
- Functions
- Indirect Function Table
- Initialized data

Module structure



- Memory declaration
- Function signatures
- Functions
- Indirect Function Table
- Initialized data

```
min_size = 16mb  
max_size = 1gb  
exported_to_js = false
```

Module structure



- Memory declaration
- Function signatures
- Functions
- Indirect Function Table
- Initialized data

```
(i32, i32) -> i32  
(i64, i32) -> i32  
(f32) -> i32
```

Module structure



- Memory declaration
- Function signatures
- Functions
- Indirect Function Table
- Initialized data

```
myfunc:  
  <sig>  
  <flags>  
  <code>
```

Module structure



- Memory declaration
- Function signatures
- Functions
- Indirect Function Table
- Initialized data

```
0: myfunc1  
1: myfunc2  
2: myfunc2
```

Module structure



- Memory declaration
- Function signatures
- Functions
- Indirect Function Table
- Initialized data

```
0x01099de8: <data>  
0x0f0a9c12: <data>  
0x00034a00: <data>
```

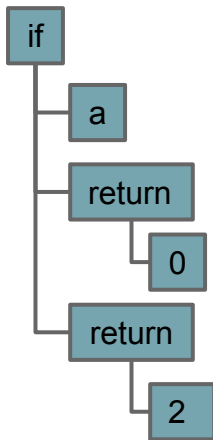
Bytecode => TurboFan

- One Linear pass to construct sea of nodes
 - SSA environment tracks control and effect dependencies
 - Stack of if, blocks, and loops
 - Conservative phi insertion at loop headers
 - Reduction steps generate nodes in the IR graph
- Machine-level graph
 - Immediately suitable for code generation
 - Correct sea-of-nodes can go through scheduling
 - Can apply machine-level and machine-independent optimizations
- Fast calling convention
 - No boxing of double arguments
 - All arguments in registers
 - No extra JSFunction / context arguments

Pre-order encoding of an AST

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

```
return a?0:2
```



0	if
1	local
2	#0
3	ret
4	iconst
5	#0
6	ret
7	iconst
8	#2

0	ret
1	if
2	local
3	#0
4	iconst
5	#0
6	iconst
7	#2

0	ret
1	if
2	local0
3	iconst0
4	iconst2

0	if
1	local0
2	iconst0
3	iconst2

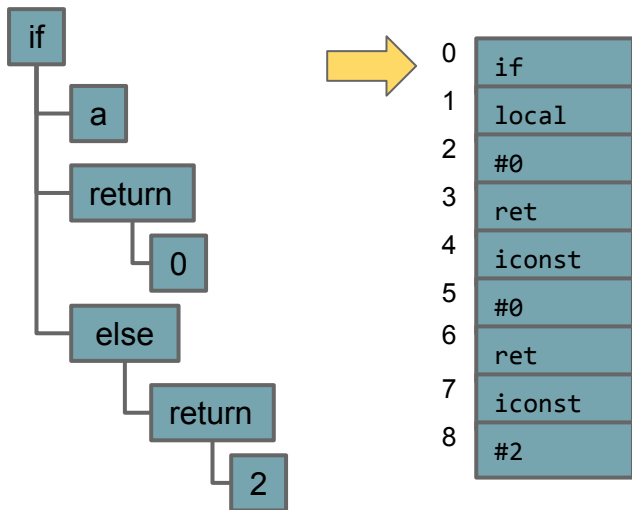
Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished



finished



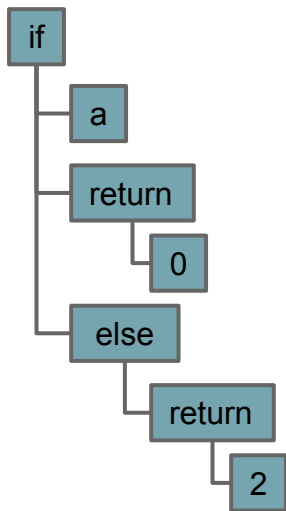
Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished



finished



0	if
1	local
2	#0
3	ret
4	iconst
5	#0
6	ret
7	iconst
8	#2

Production stack



shift

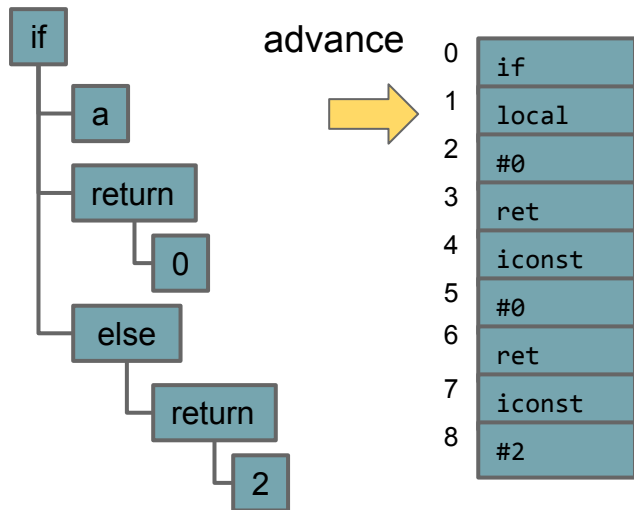
Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished



finished



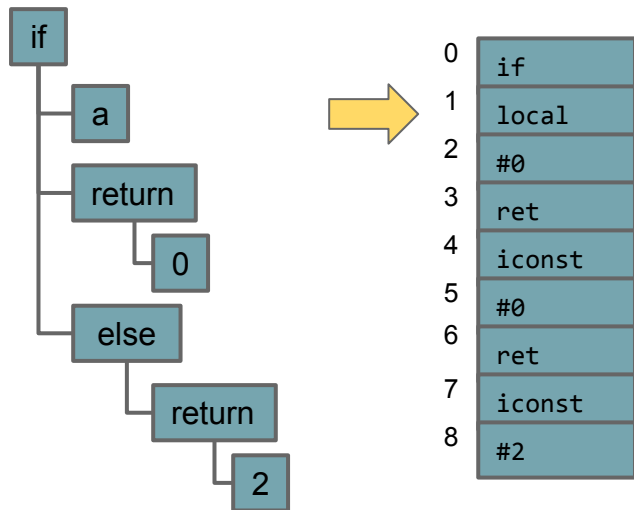
Production stack



Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



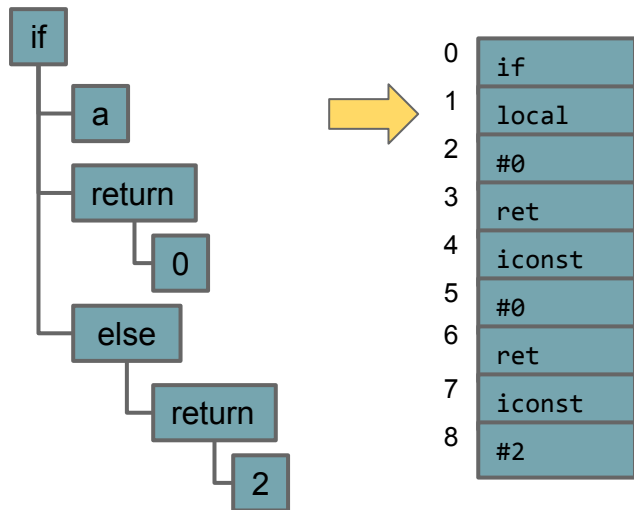
Production stack



Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack



reduce

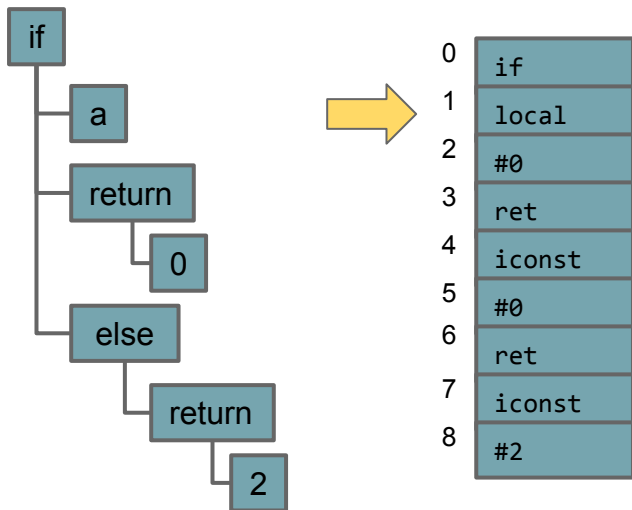
Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished



finished



Production stack



reduce

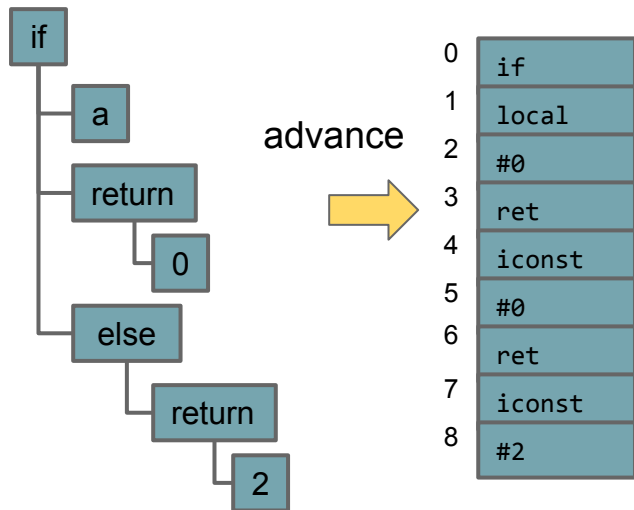
Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished



finished



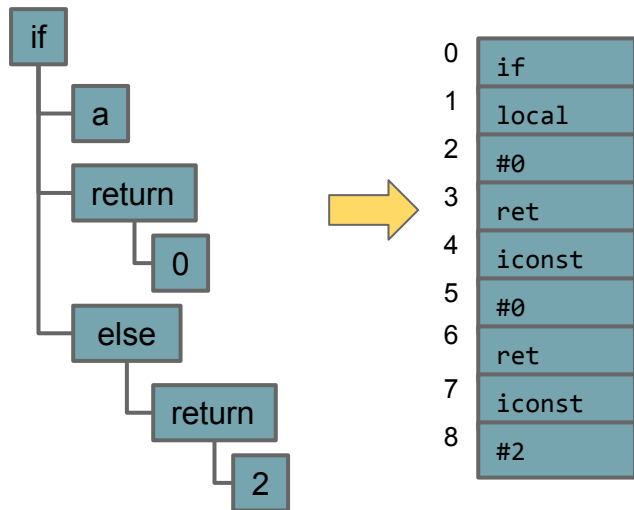
Production stack



Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack

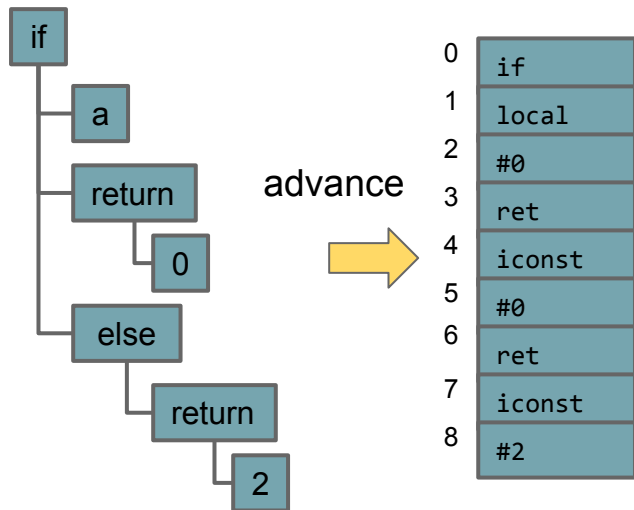


shift

Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



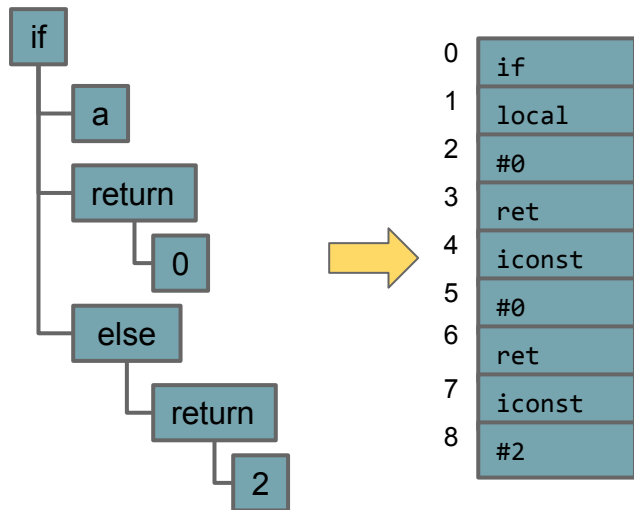
Production stack



Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack

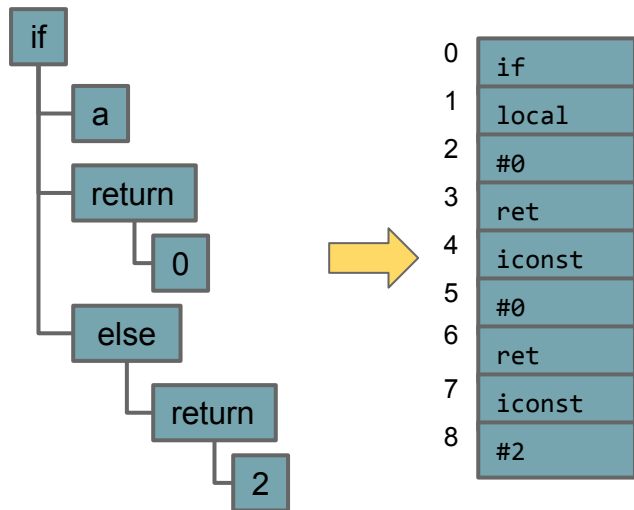


shift

Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack

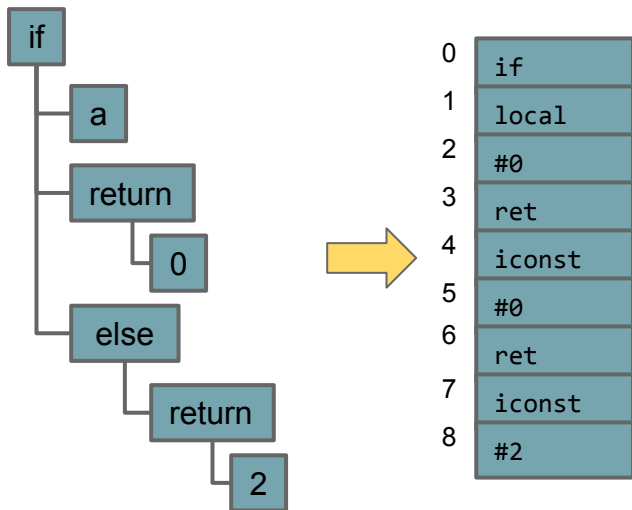


reduce

Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack

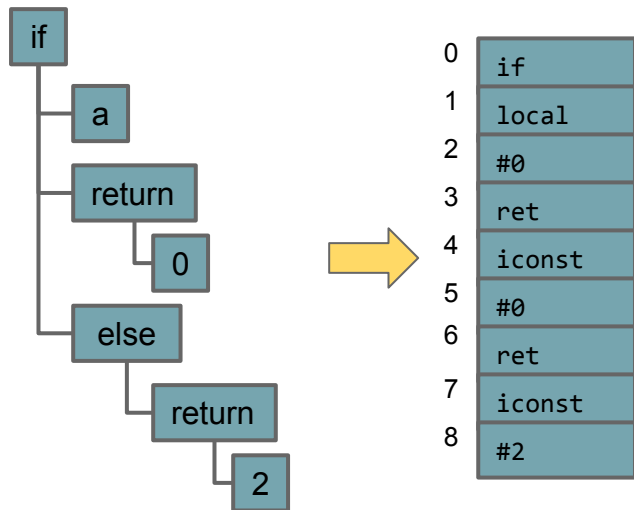


reduce

Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack

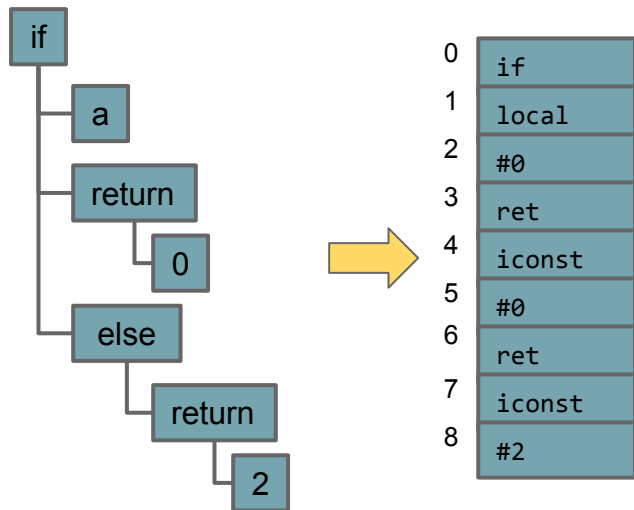


reduce

Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack



reduce

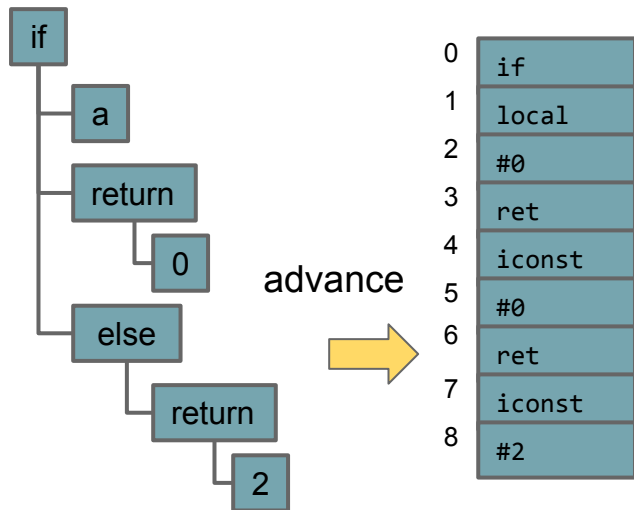
Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished



finished



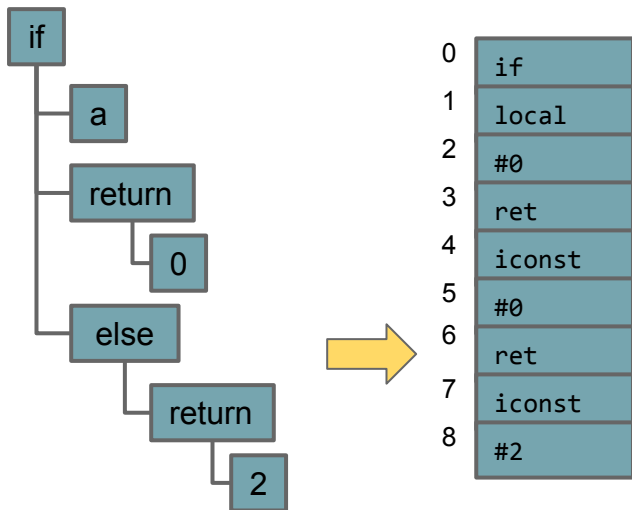
Production stack



Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack

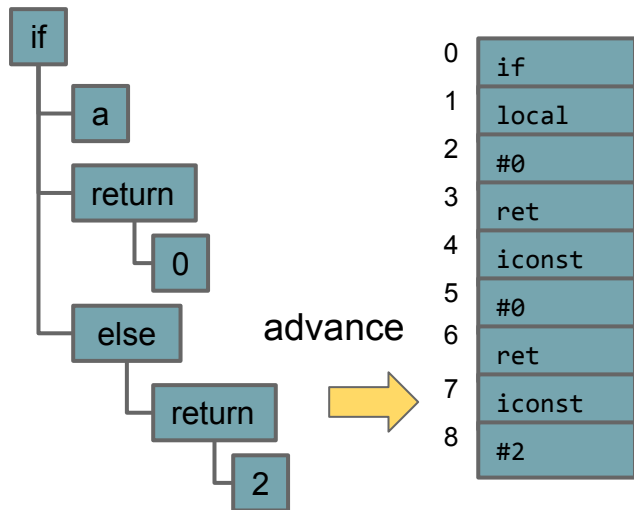


shift

Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



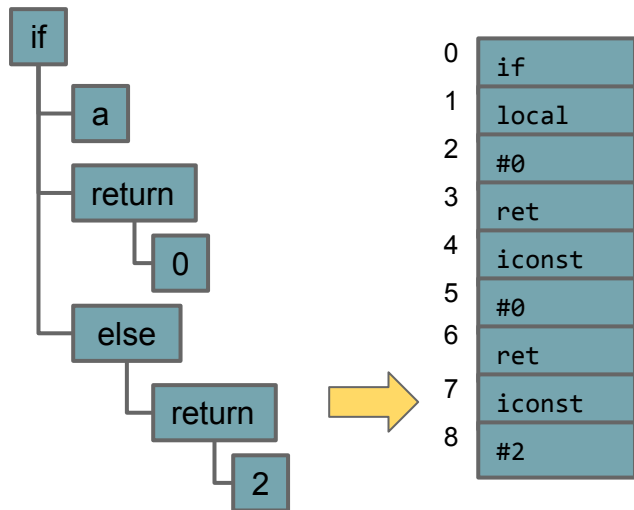
Production stack



Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack

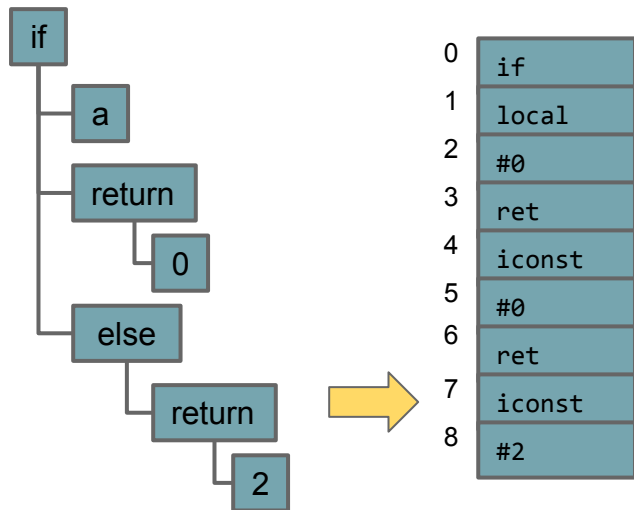


shift

Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack

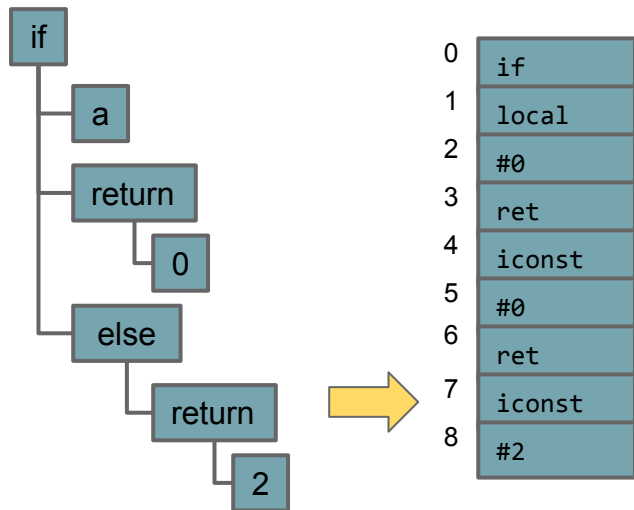


reduce

Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack

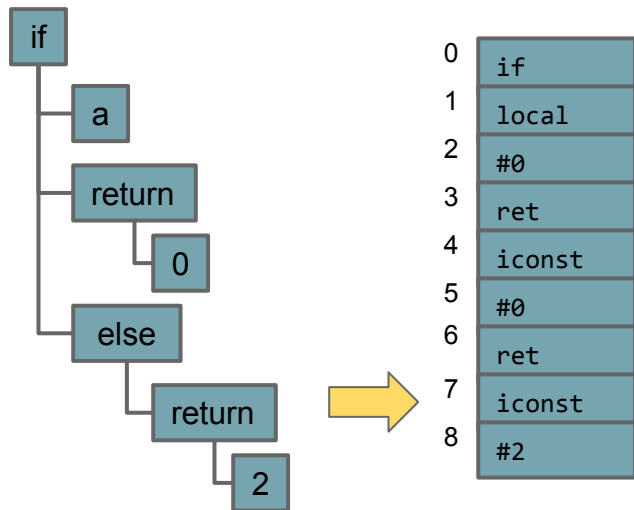


reduce

Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished  finished 



Production stack



reduce

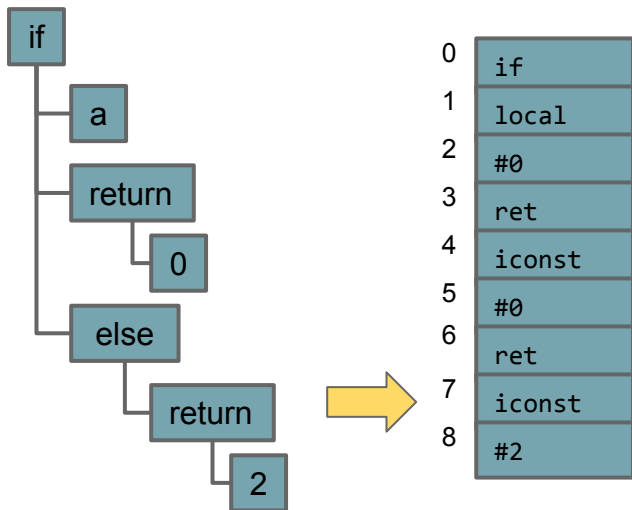
Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished



finished



Production stack



reduce

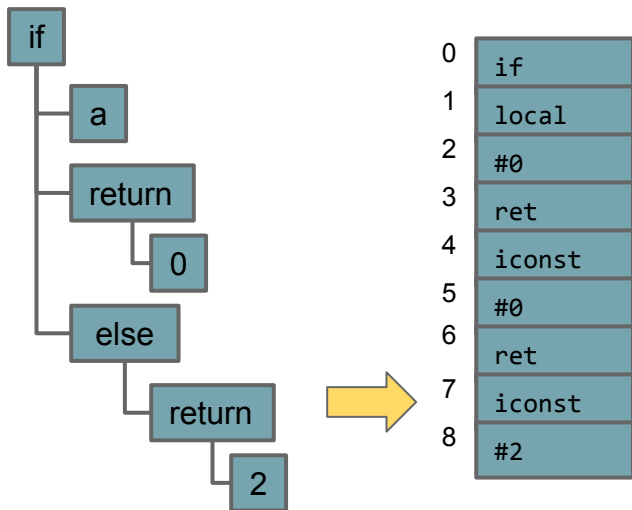
Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished



finished



Production stack



reduce

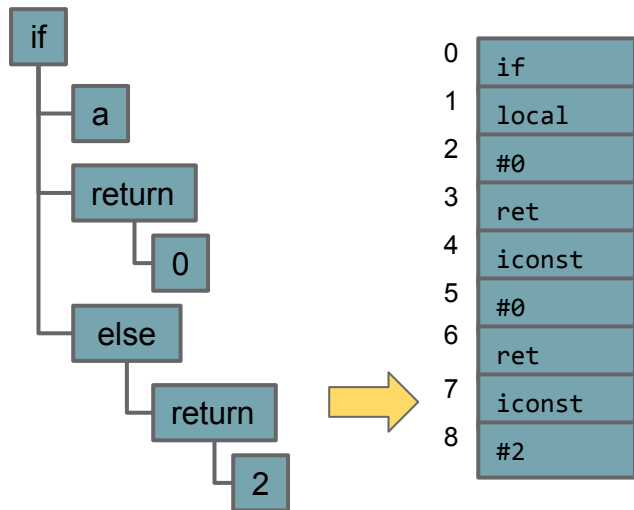
Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished



finished



Production stack



reduce

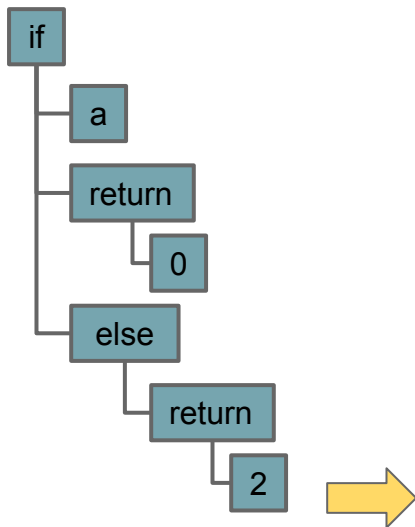
Decoding preorder to IR

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

unfinished



finished



finish

0	if
1	local
2	#0
3	ret
4	iconst
5	#0
6	ret
7	iconst
8	#2

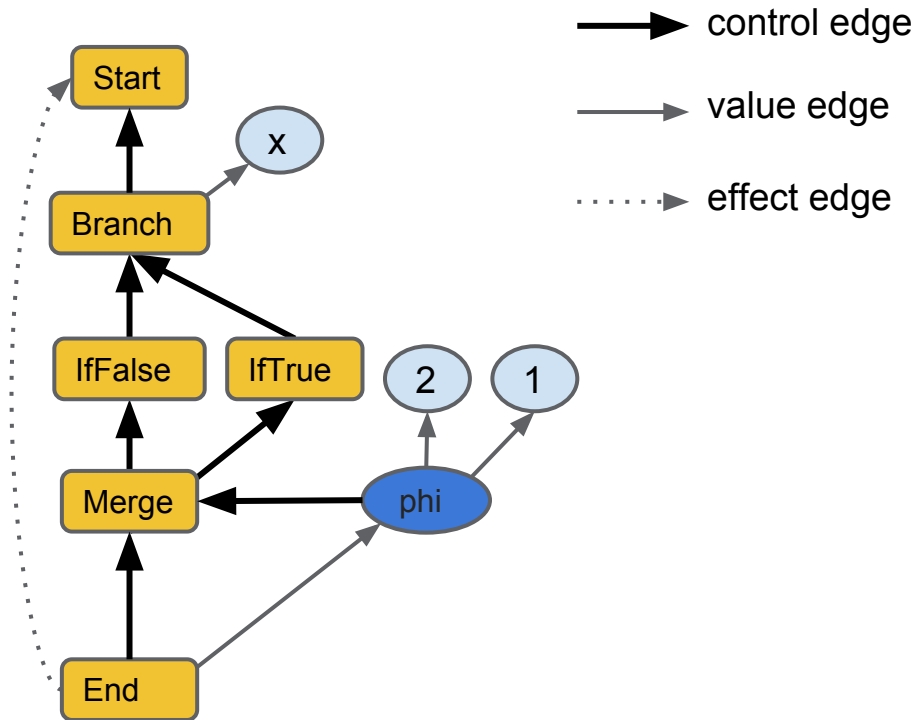
Production stack

Bytecode \Rightarrow TurboFan

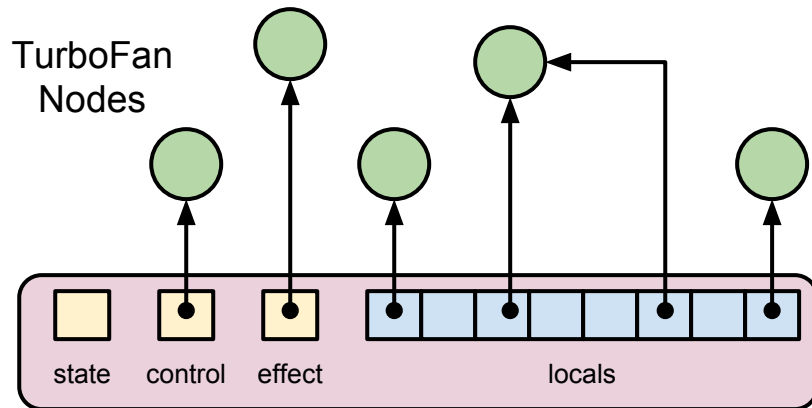
- One Linear pass to construct sea of nodes
 - SSA environment tracks control and effect dependencies
 - Stack of if, blocks, and loops
 - Conservative phi insertion at loop headers
 - Reduction steps generate nodes in the IR graph
- Machine-level graph
 - Immediately suitable for code generation
 - Correct sea-of-nodes can go through scheduling
 - Can apply machine-level and machine-independent optimizations

TurboFan graph example

```
function (x) {  
  return x ? 1 : 2;  
}
```

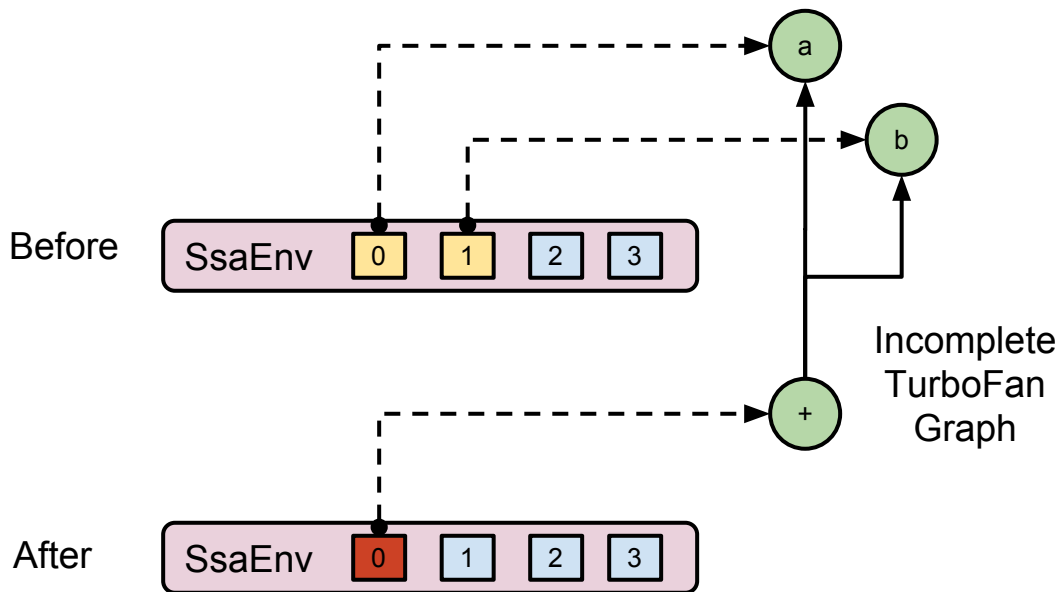


TurboFan SSA Environment



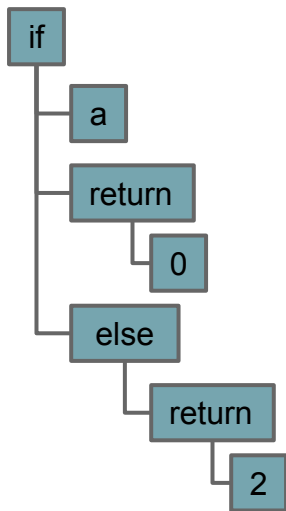
Using the SSA environment

bytecode: `local[0] = local[0] + local[1]`

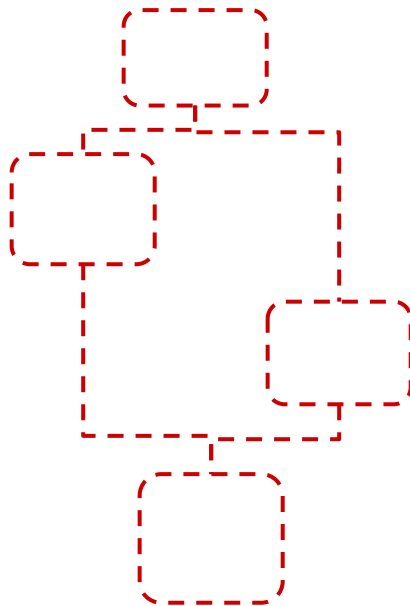


Minimal SSA Renaming in one pass

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

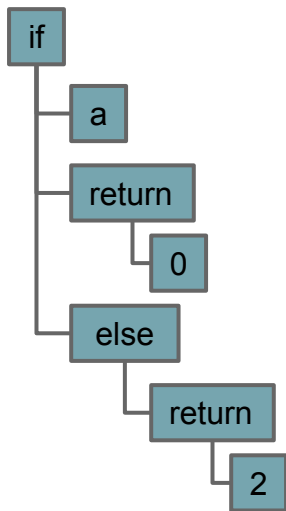


0	if
1	local
2	#0
3	ret
4	iconst
5	#0
6	ret
7	iconst
8	#2



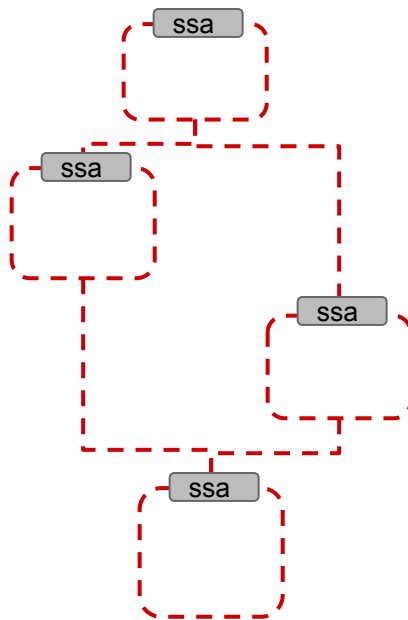
Minimal SSA Renaming in one pass

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```



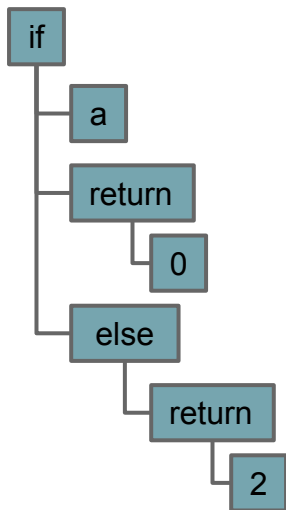
0	if
1	local
2	#0
3	ret
4	iconst
5	#0
6	ret
7	iconst
8	#2

Virtual CFG



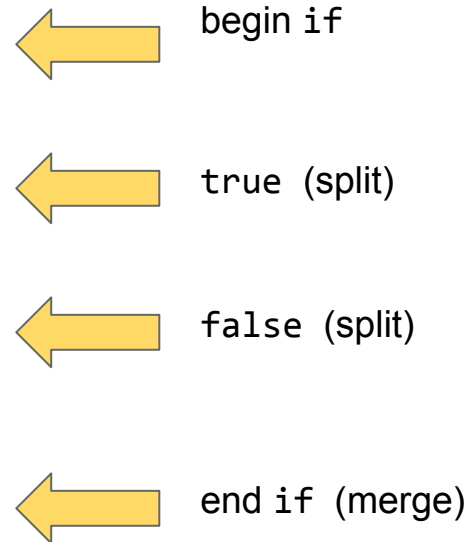
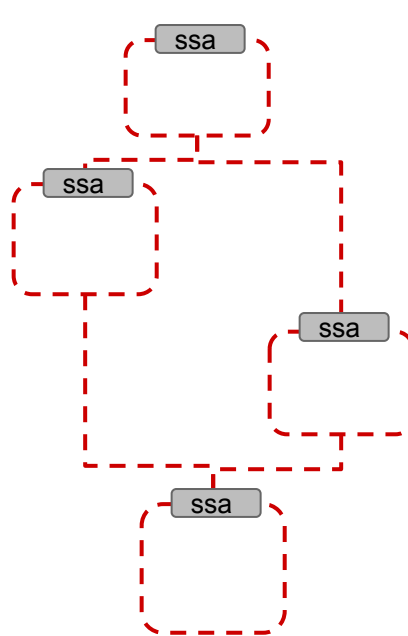
Minimal SSA Renaming in one pass

```
if (a) return 0; else return 2;
```

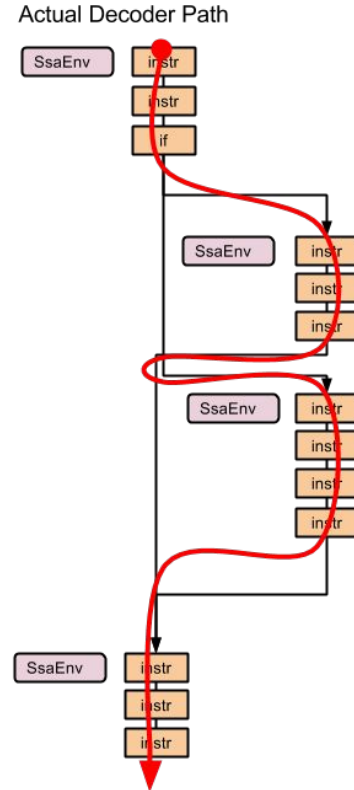
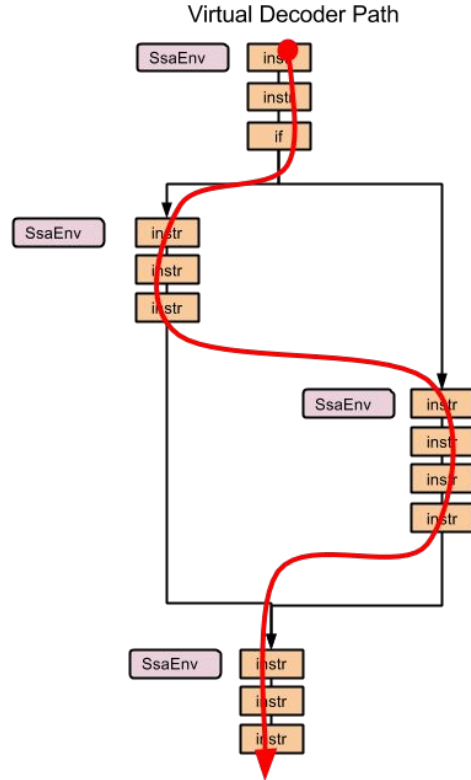


0	if
1	local
2	#0
3	ret
4	iconst
5	#0
6	ret
7	iconst
8	#2

Virtual CFG



Stack of SSA environments

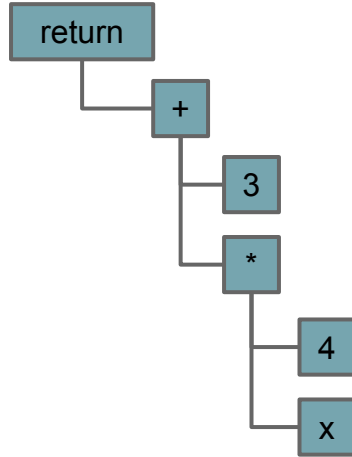


The same great AST: now in postorder!

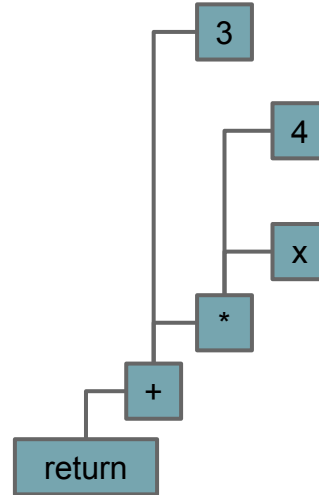
Function Bodies

Post-order encoding of an AST

```
return 3 + x * 4
```



=

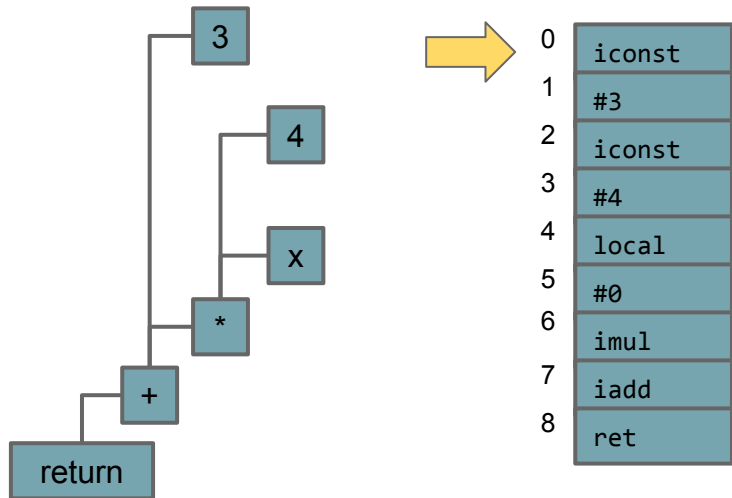


0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4

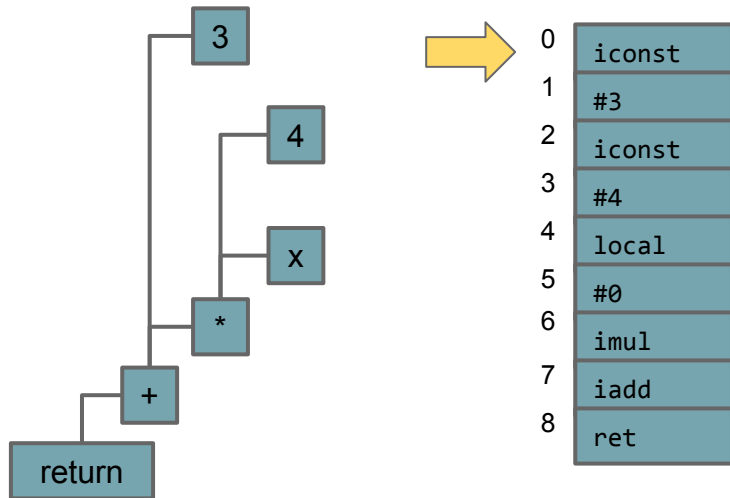
finished



Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4

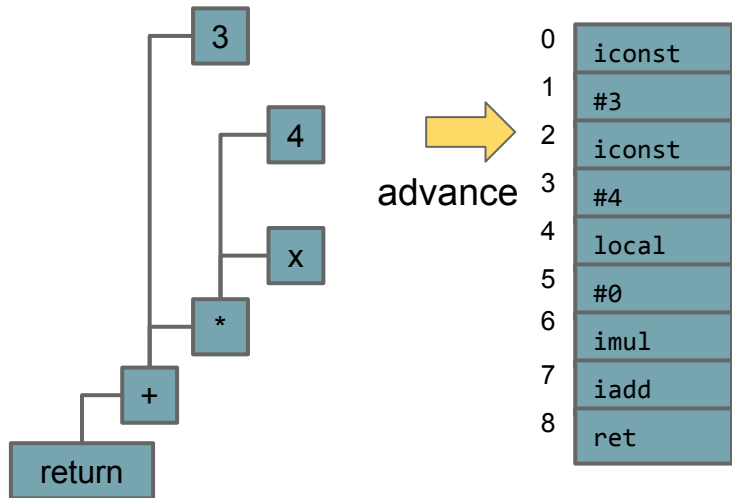
finished



Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4

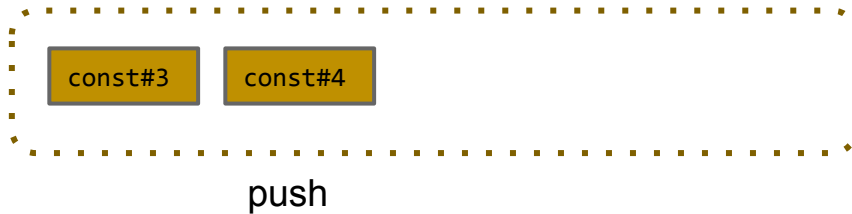
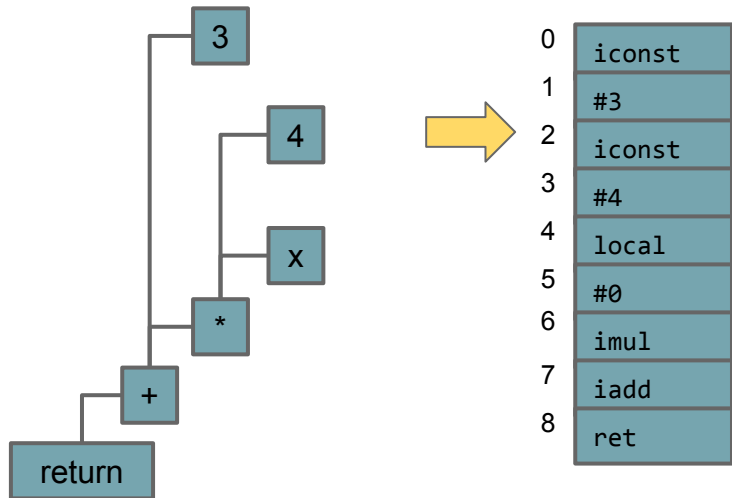
finished



Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4

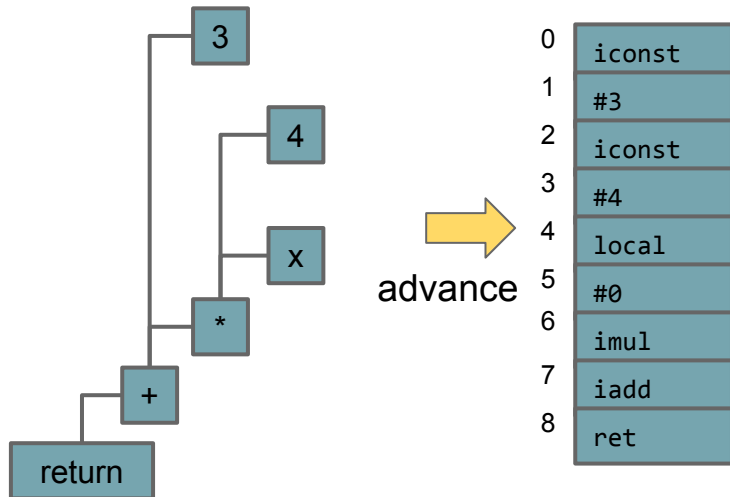
finished



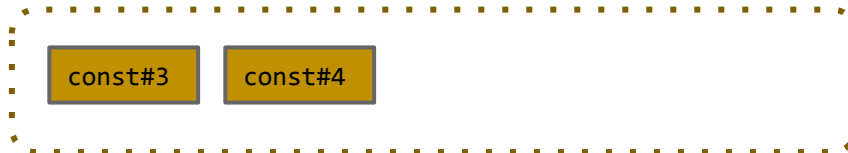
Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4

finished



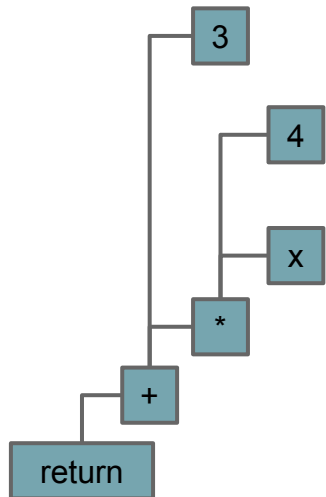
0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret



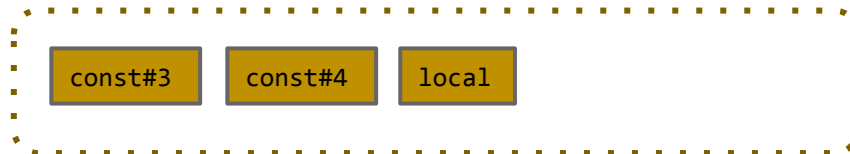
Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4

finished



0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

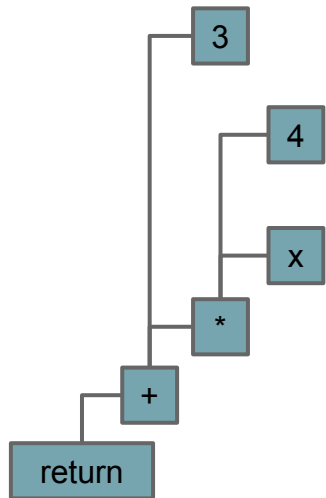


push

Decoding post-order to an AST

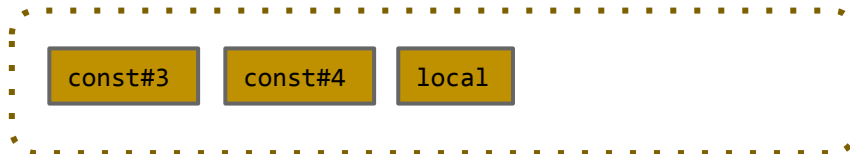
return 3 + x * 4

finished



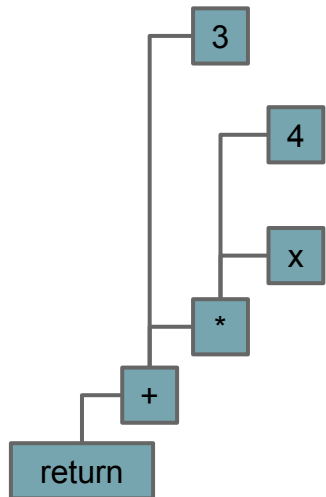
advance

0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret



Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4



0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

pop

const#4

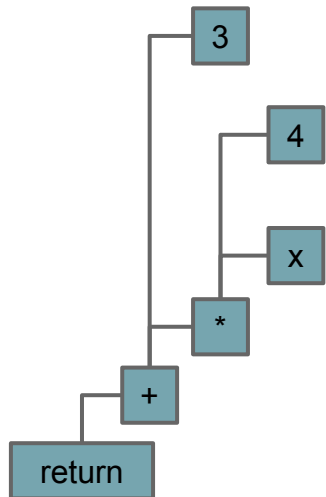
local

finished



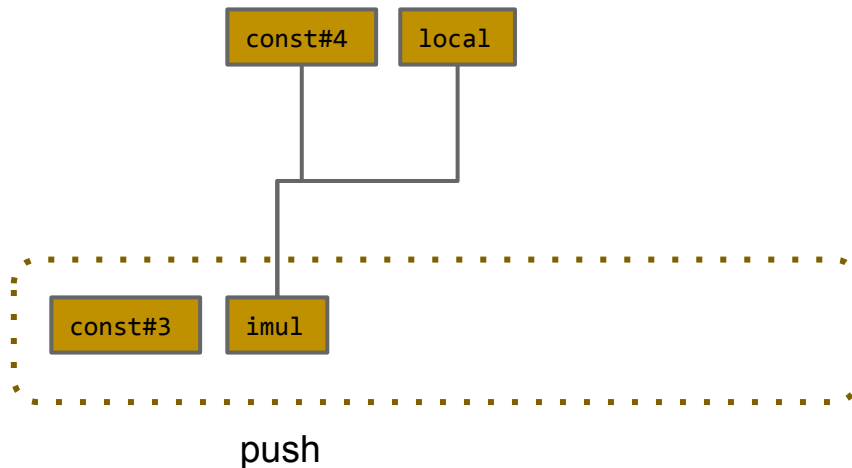
Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4



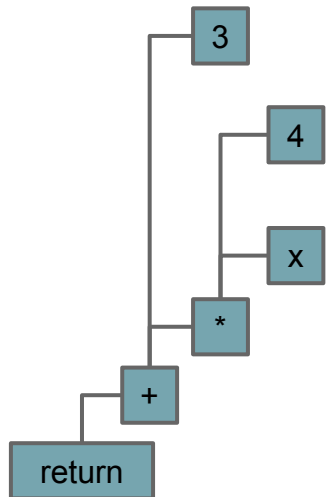
0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

finished



Decoding post-order to an AST

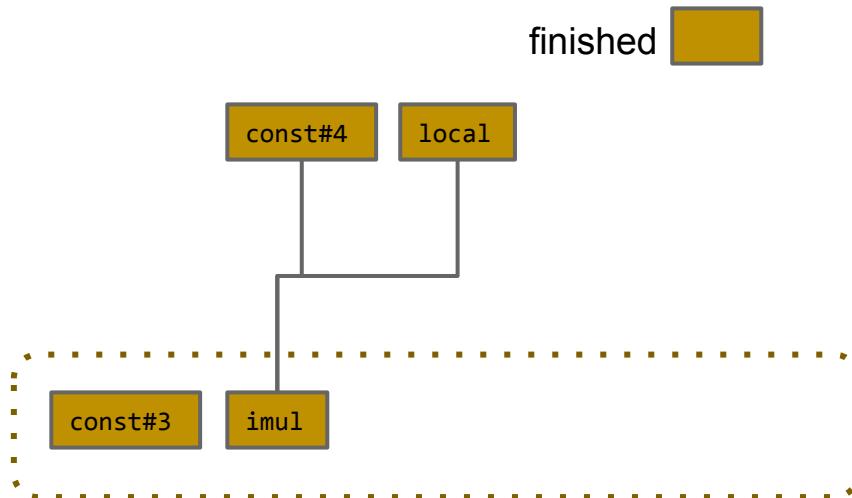
return 3 + x * 4



advance

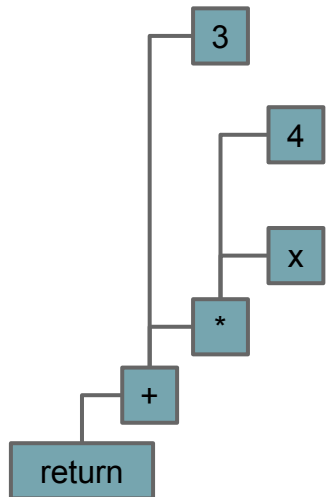
0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

finished



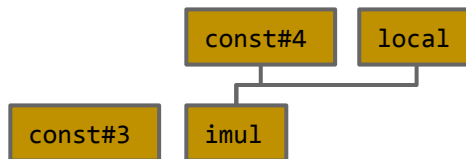
Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4



0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

pop

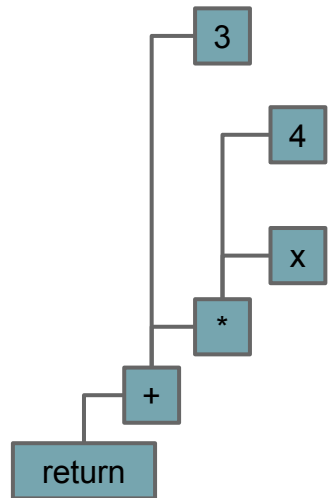


finished



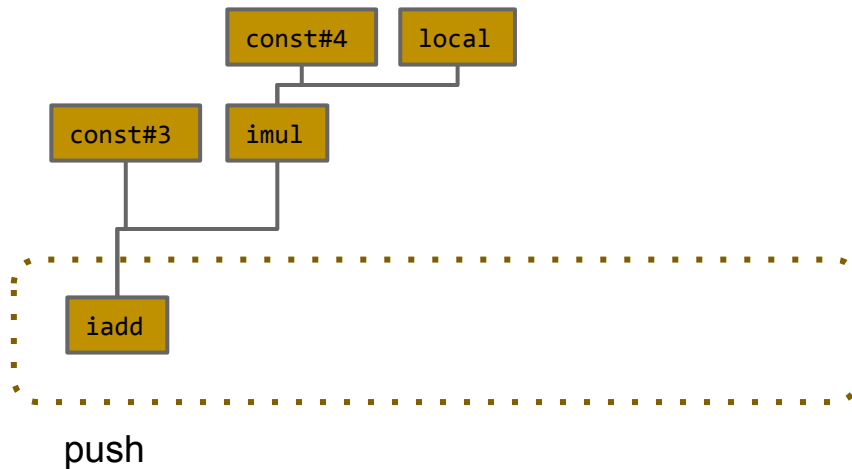
Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4



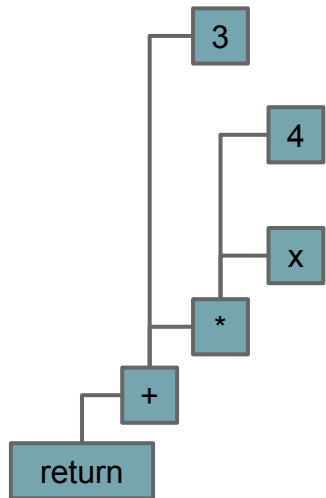
0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

finished



Decoding post-order to an AST

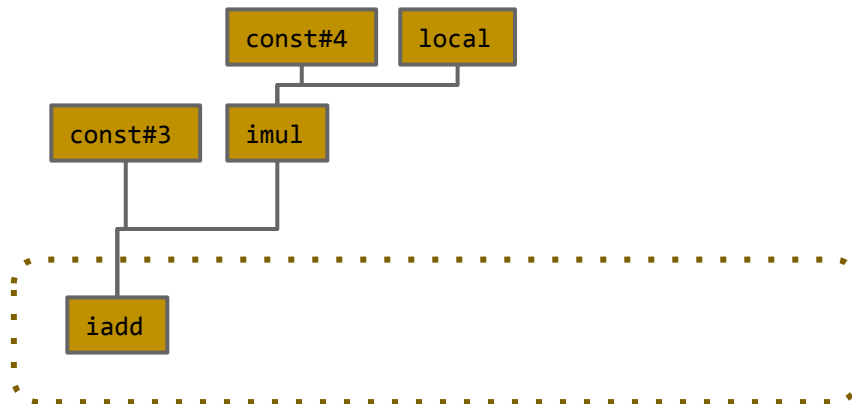
return 3 + x * 4



advance

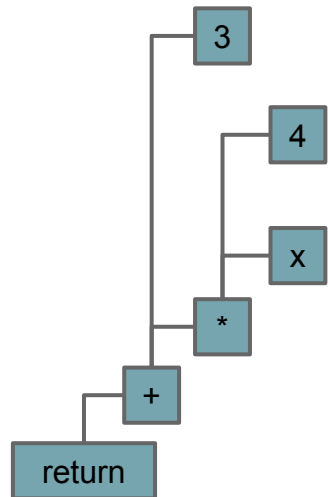
0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

finished



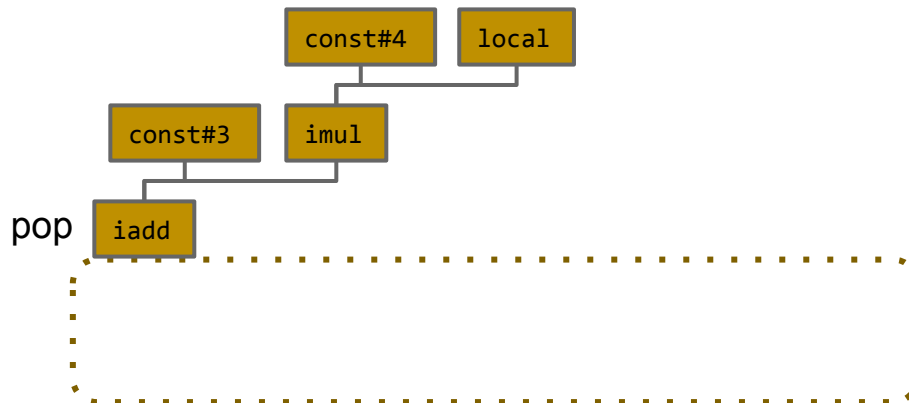
Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4



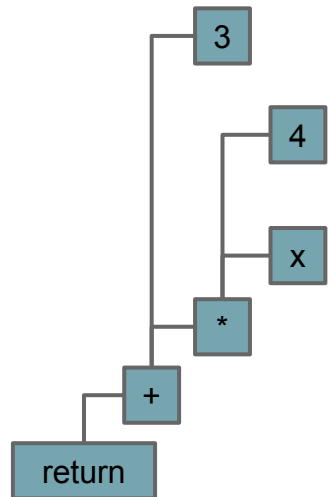
0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

finished



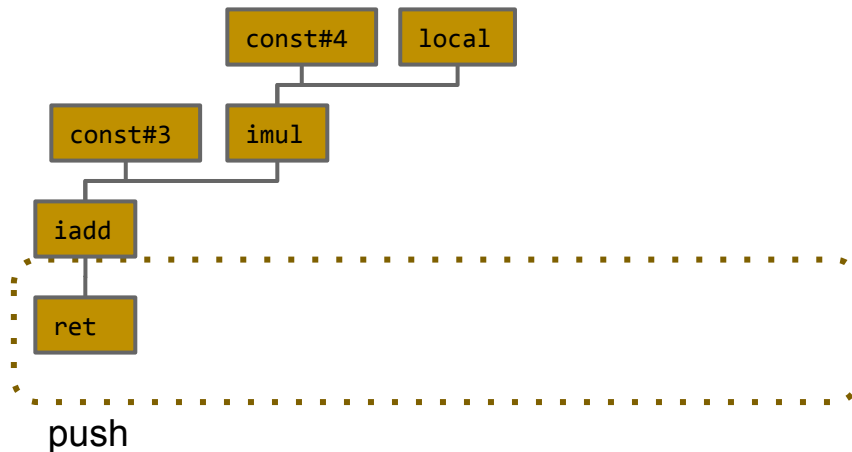
Decoding post-order to an AST

return 3 + x * 4



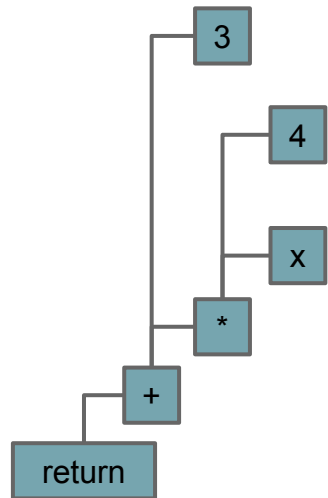
0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

finished



Decoding post-order to an AST

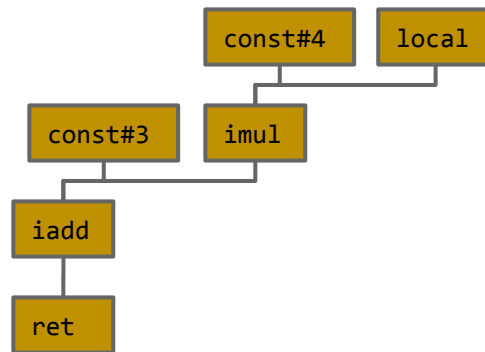
return 3 + x * 4



finish

0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

finished

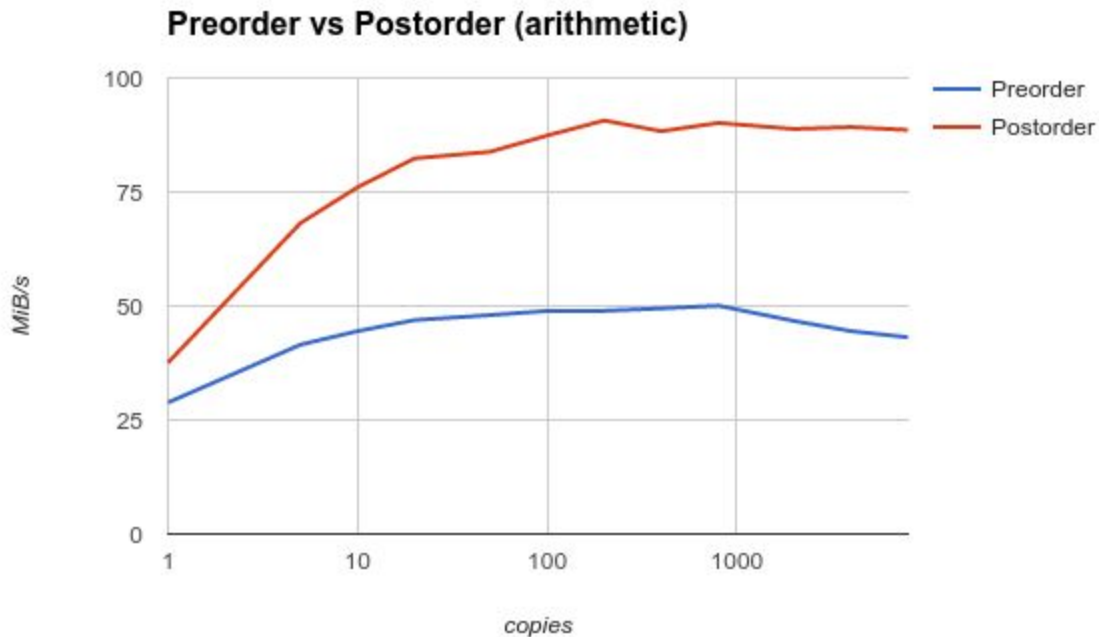


Decode+Verify performance

```
return 3 + x * 4
```

0	ret
1	iadd
2	iconst
3	#3
4	imul
5	iconst
6	#4
7	local
8	#0

preorder



0	iconst
1	#3
2	iconst
3	#4
4	local
5	#0
6	imul
7	iadd
8	ret

postorder

Decode+Verify performance

`select(2, 3, x)`

0	select
1	iconst
2	#2
3	iconst
4	#3
5	local
6	#0

preorder



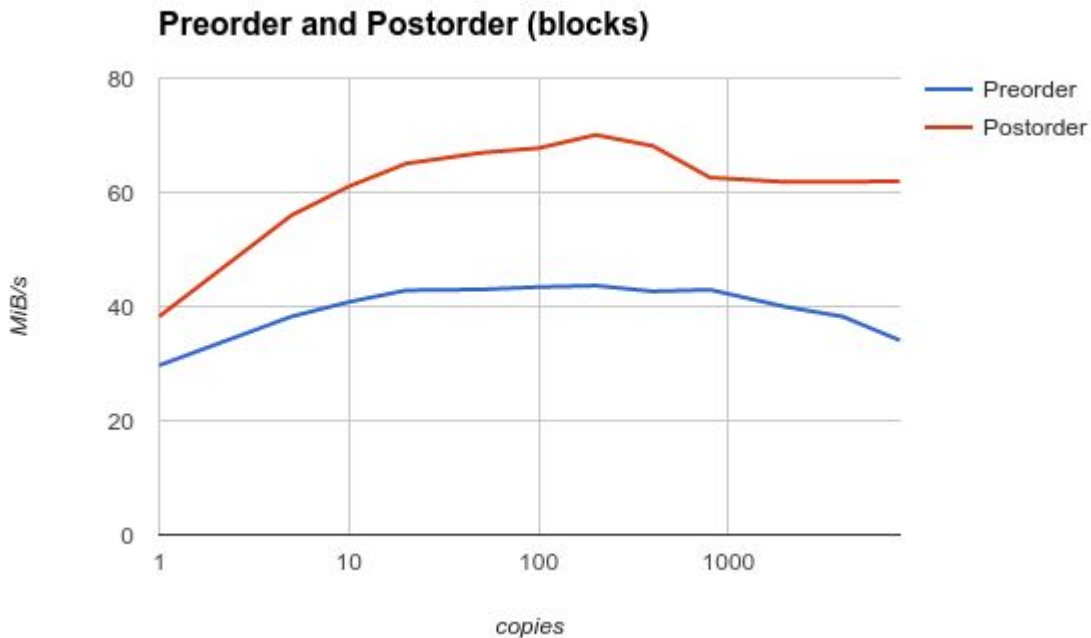
0	iconst
1	#2
2	iconst
3	#3
4	local
5	#0
6	select

postorder

Decode+Verify performance

```
block(block(br_if $0 x) br($1, #3)) #2)
```

0	block
1	2
2	block
3	2
4	br_if
5	\$0
6	local
7	#0
8	nop
9	br
10	\$1
11	iconst
12	#3
13	iconst
14	#2



0	block
1	block
2	nop
3	local
4	#0
5	br_if
6	\$0
7	iconst
8	#3
9	br
10	\$1
11	end
12	iconst
13	#2
14	end

Postorder encodings of control

block

br

br_if

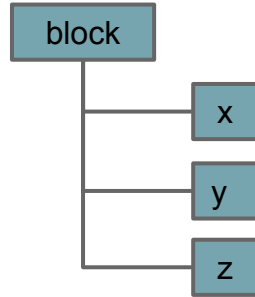
if

if_else

tableswitch

Preorder vs. Postorder block

(block x, y, z)



0	block
1	3
2	(x)
3	(y)
4	(z)

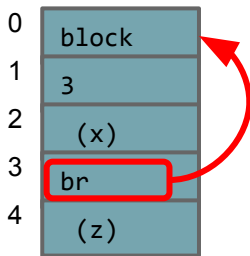
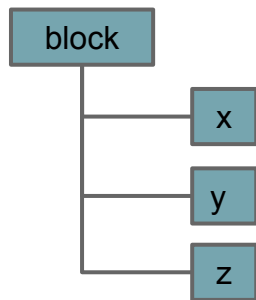
preorder

0	block
1	(x)
2	(y)
3	(z)
4	end

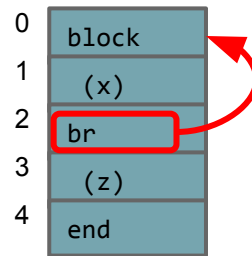
bracketed

Preorder vs. Postorder block verification

(block x, br \$0, z)



preorder



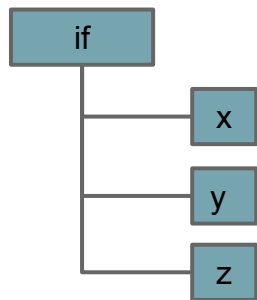
bracketed



single-pass verification

Preorder vs. Postorder if/else

```
(if_else x, y, z)
```



0	<code>if_else</code>
1	<code>(x)</code>
2	<code>(y)</code>
3	<code>(z)</code>

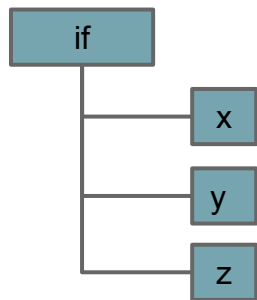
preorder

0	<code>(x)</code>
1	<code>if</code>
2	<code>(y)</code>
3	<code>else</code>
4	<code>(z)</code>
5	<code>end</code>

in-order

Preorder vs. Postorder if/else

```
(if_else x, y, z)
```



0	if_else
1	(x)
2	(y)
3	(z)

preorder



0	(x)
1	if
2	(y)
3	else
4	(z)
5	end

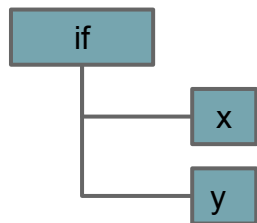
in-order



single-pass verification

Preorder vs. Postorder if/else

(if x, y)



0	if_else
1	(x)
2	(y)

preorder



0	(x)
1	if
2	(y)
3	end

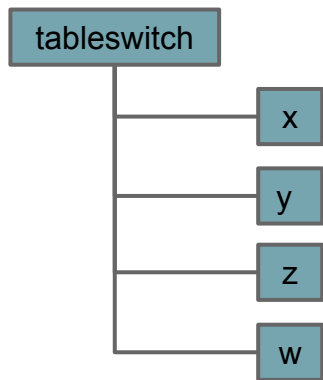
in-order



single-pass verification

Preorder vs. Postorder tableswitch

(tableswitch x, y, z, w)



0	switch
1	(x)
2	(y)
3	(z)
4	(w)

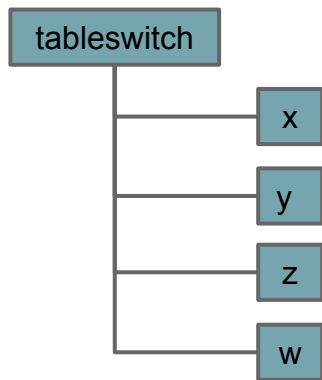
preorder

0	(x)
1	switch
2	(y)
3	next
4	(z)
5	next
6	(w)
7	end

in-order

Preorder vs. Postorder tableswitch

(tableswitch x, y, z, w)



0	switch
1	(x)
2	(y)
3	(z)
4	(w)

preorder

0	(x)
1	switch
2	(y)
3	next
4	(z)
5	next
6	(w)
7	end

in-order



single-pass verification

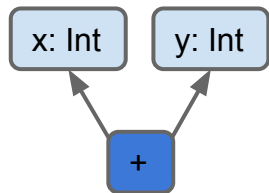
WebAssembly binary code

- Goals:
 - compact => smaller than minified JS
 - easy to verify => one linear pass
 - easy to compile => one linear pass to construct IR or baseline JIT
 - extensible => anticipate new bytecodes and types
- Did we deliver?
 - Fast single-pass decode+verify (> 100MB/s)
 - Single-pass to compiler IR demonstrated (V8/TurboFan)
 - Fast optimizing compiler (1.8MB/s single thread, 7MB/s with 8 threads)
 - Within 20% of native code execution speed (geomean; vs 80% for asm.js)
 - Single-pass compiler in development (Mozilla)

Compiling WASM vs. Compiling asm.js

- JavaScript is not statically typed
 - Values have types, not variables
 - 8 is a number, “foo” is a string
 - All basic operators (+ - / * % << >>) are overloaded or have implicit conversions
- All arithmetic is done in 64-bit floating point
 - Empirically most programs use small integers (≤ 31 bits)
 - Overflow to double causes bailout to slow path, allocation, etc
 - Troublesome cases $\{-0.0 \text{ NaN Infinity } -\text{Infinity}\}$
- Type “annotations” in asm.js
 - $a + b \mid 0$ is integer arithmetic
 - $+(a + b)$ is double arithmetic
 - $(a \ggg 0) < (b \ggg 0)$ is an unsigned comparison

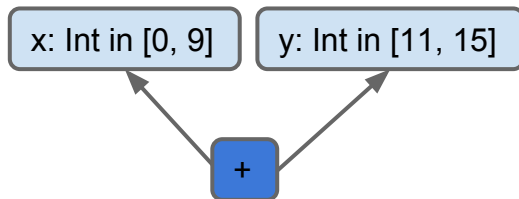
Type and Range Analysis (asm.js)



typing
alone



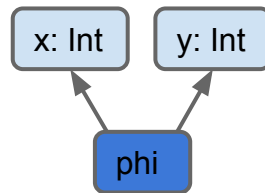
+: Num



typing + range
analysis



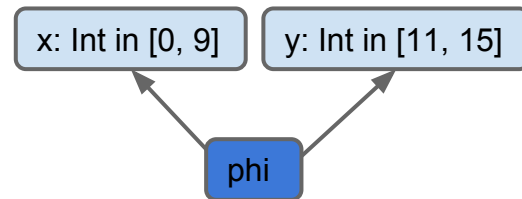
+: Int in [11, 26]



typing
alone



phi: Int

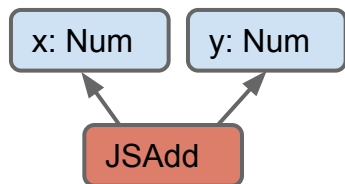


typing + range
analysis

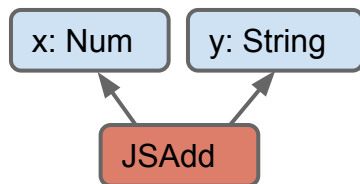
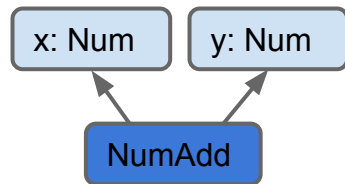


phi: Int in [0, 15]

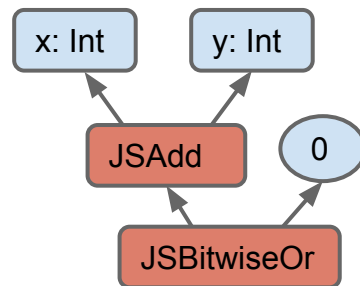
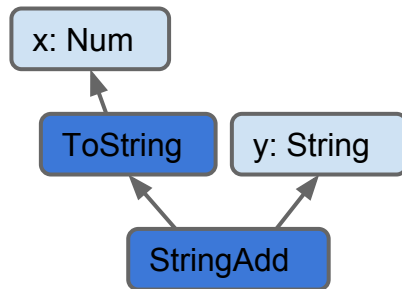
Typed lowering as Reduction (asm.js)



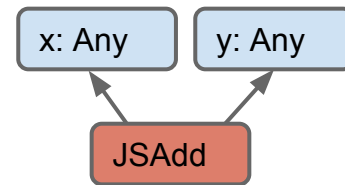
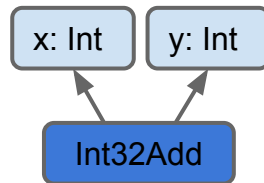
typed
lowering
↓



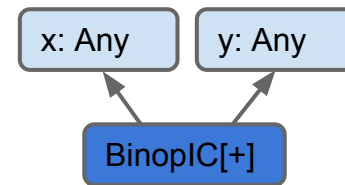
typed
lowering
↓



typed
lowering
↓

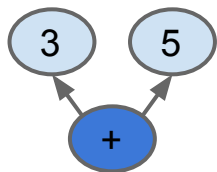


generic
lowering
↓

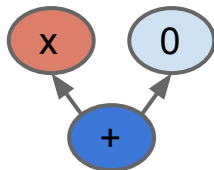


WASM = no lowering necessary!

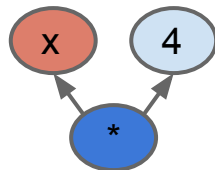
General Reductions



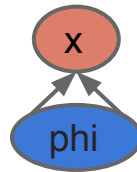
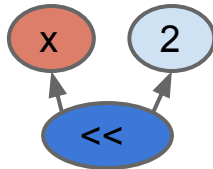
constant
folding



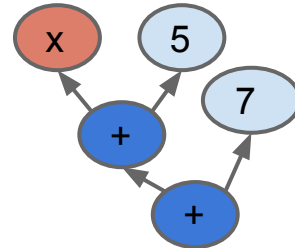
strength
reduction



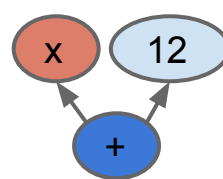
strength
reduction



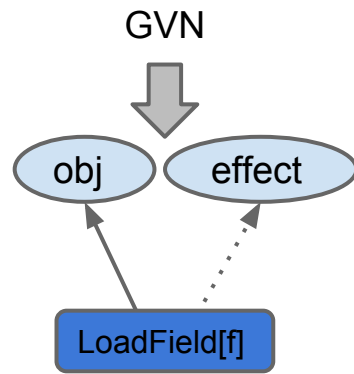
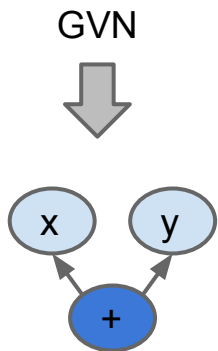
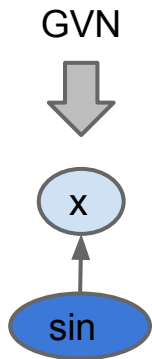
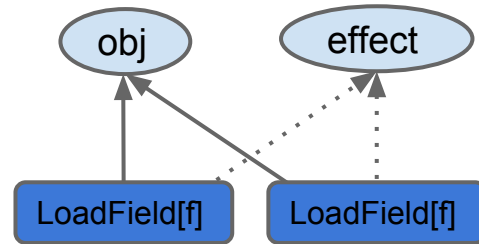
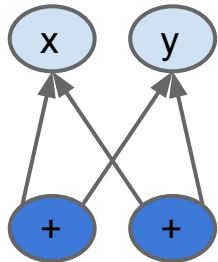
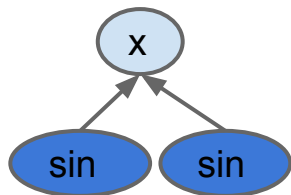
phi
simplification



algebraic
reassociation



General Reductions (2)



WebAssembly Status

- LLVM backend upstream
- Lots of tools
- Reference implementation (spec) in Standard ML
- 3 Browser engines have native support in various stages
 - Google Chrome Beta: fully spec compliant on all architectures, behind a flag
 - Mozilla Firefox: optimized for ia32 and x64, behind a flag
 - Microsoft Edge: support in an experimental build
- MVP (Version 1.0) expected to be shipped this summer
- Standardization expected by the end of the year

<https://github.com/WebAssembly/>

Questions?